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Keith Richards and Mick Jagger



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Maclean's

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14 No group will be more affected by the outcome of the Sept. 12 Quebec election than the province's young people. Polls show that most of them support sovereignty, yet as a group seems less interested in traditional party politics or the once fashionable cause of flag-waving rationalism.



Basketball's fast break

46 The World Championship of Basketball—featuring a formidable team of 16th all-stars dubbed Dream Team II—comes to Toronto and Hamilton, part of the game's full-court press on the Canadian coast.

PHOTOGRAPH BY [unreadable]

PHOTOGRAPH BY [unreadable]

Required reading

Congratulations for the excellent "Canadian critical" cover story July 29 on the effects of funding cuts in Canada's health care system. In the United States, we are drowning in reports and stories that are slanted to accommodate the political beliefs of the writer or publisher. What a relief to see professional journalists with no secret agendas. You surely told it like it was from the American perspective—which is what really counts. Your article should be mandatory reading for everyone in Washington and state capitals. As we leave from Canada it is important for us to be told the pitfalls as well as the promises of the Canadian health system.

Frederick D. Hunt Jr.
President, Society of Professional
Health Administrators,
Clayton, Ohio, Md.

Your article quotes Eldon Smith, dean of the faculty of medicine, University of Calgary, as saying, "There is no evidence that we can prevent many of the diseases that people think we can, and there is no evidence that genetics is going to be any cheaper than the way we currently do it." Unfortunately, the concept of prevention is a small part of medical care. There are billions of dollars and potential billions in treatment and virtually none of them in prevention. As long as we continue to spend our billions on a philosophy of health care that is disease-centred, we will continue to have a health care system that is in crisis.

David J. Kozak
Neurologist, Ont.

"Canadian critics" certainly get angry that many Canadian politicians lack a genuine vision of Canadian potential and are prepared to forfeit our future, knowingly or otherwise. Canada cannot allow its best-trained people to go over to the United States in order to further their careers. Instead of closing beds and closing hospitals and putting high-tech medical people out of work, we should be expanding our medical facilities and employing them in the United States as a first-of-its-kind service. Canadian hospitals should also be required to purchase equipment made in Canada whenever possible. Canadian leaders need to worry at least as much about improving Canada's future as reducing the deficit.

Gloria F. Maxwell,
Vancouver

Conditions are getting critical at Calgary's Foothills hospital, and Dr. Bill Hall may be



Operation at Calgary's Foothills hospital: the pitfalls and the promises

"quiet, groggy and ramped," but he's one fast and cutting family physician and an outstanding teacher of young doctors. The work he does daily in both respects is astonishing. If American calls, let a pony talk and his wisdom hang up.

Daniel Salzman,
Calgary

stand that we are having a problem absorbing the high levels of immigration we currently have and it's time to push back the flow to a manageable level!

Don R. Dargatzis,
Aurora, Ont.

It is Statistics Canada reports, immigrants are better-educated and more likely to be working than those born in Canada, why do we need employment equity legislation?

Paul Bial,
London, Ont.

Optimum levels

The immigration department has used a Statistics Canada report ("A boom or a bust? Canada, July 28) of dubious logic to try to bolster its pathetic anger. However, does anyone up there ever try to gauge the impact on our environment of flooding our country with one million additional people every four years? Such as measuring the amount of our dwindling farmland passed over to house them. Such as calculating the loss to our dwindling oil-and-gas reserves to keep them warm. Such as the pressures created on our dwindling landfill sites to dispose of their garbage. And so on and so on. Rather than working towards the maximum level of population, our government should be working towards the optimum level of population.

George G. Morris,
Hamilton

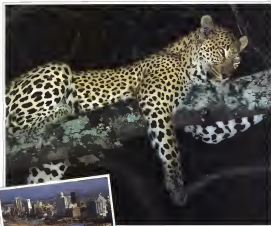
With regard to the assertion that immigrants are "often better-educated and harder working," the Canadian immigrants involved in the killings of two Canadian citizens in Toronto recently were neither better-educated nor harder working. Why is it so hard for the West-Indians in this country to under-

Feminist caricature

Has Barbara Ansel run out of real social problems and resorted to inventing them ("The tyranny of modern-day feminism," Column, July 13)? She fails to recognize that there is no monolithic, universally held concept of feminism, but instead lumps all feminists into one caricatured group of oppressors, whose "regime of terror" against as vulnerable males is comparable to "the horrors of McCarthyism and Nazism." Ansel might want to learn about feminism some day—instead of just making it up as she goes along.

Tom Cassidy,
North York, Ont.

Finally, an article that makes sense. A man expressing such ideas as Barbara Ansel's would be condemned by radical feminists so it is a good to see them come from a woman. Feminism in Canada has grown into an uncontrolled monster, with the original idea being lost somewhere in the constant twisting of facts. Let us all live equal pay for equal work, for universal day care, and against neo-cons



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LETTERS

ply and abuse. But if feminism means monitoring, tireless accusations and complete intolerance, reach me out!

Laure Gilbert,
Nancyson

Time after time

In your search for an explanation of the growing polarization between Quebec and the rest of Canada ("The tree that bled," Cover, July 1), you fail to see the forest for the trees. The average Canadian living outside of Quebec simply wants a level playing field. Our tolerance has been strained by free traders that, time and time again, have put forward policies favouring one region of the country at the expense of the rest. If you had asked Canadians to prioritize their concerns instead of offering them a narrow selection of alternatives designed to appeal to their preconceived notions of polarization, you would have discovered the simple truth.

John D. Duncan,
Programs Editor, *Quest*

turn 24 years old, and most of the people I know from my generation have grown up since the 1980 Quebec referendum with parents who were convinced Québécois, my home became anglophone, not only by way of heredity but also by pure and simple ignorance. Sadly, they think that Quebec is the centre of the world. The vote from my generation in the next referendum will be a vote of provocation for a question that is not fully understood. Quebec separatism is supported by spoiled people who lack appreciation and recognition for the truly great work by Canada has become. I am from Quebec, I am French Canadian, I am English and French speaking, that, above all, I am Canadian and proud to be so.

Anick Maruy,
Shutterstock, Inc.

'Wrong impression'

Your article on Paul Watson ("Canada's Earth warrior," *Environment*, July 25) could give the wrong impression on three points. One, that Norway catches whales for lucrative export to Japan: the truth is that it is all consumed in Norway—export of whale meat is not allowed. Two, that Watson bought a cruise ship once formerly owned by

For the Norwegian navy, the Norwegian navy did not own such a submarine. There, the Norway reaches an endangered species, the minke whale is not endangered. The scientist is a member of the International Whaling Commission has estimated the northwest Atlantic minke whale stock to be 86,000 animals. The Norwegian quota for 1996 is 300 animals.

Carl P. Silenath,
Charge d'Affaires,
Royal Norwegian Embassy,
Oslo

Caring for Earth

In reference to the article "Faded dreams" (Space/Essay, July 23, I found the final statement, "April 11 will remain the closest we will get to a new heaven and a new earth," really ironic, considering the condition of our



Edwin (Tham) Aikua on the Moon seen and women striving to reach for the stars

own planet. We are hardly justified in seeking out a new earth when we have taken such poor care of this one. Instead of spending millions of dollars to conquer new planets, how about investing some of that money in cleaning up our own backyard?

Flaine & Anderson,
London, B.C.

Seen through the cynical, all-knowing, remorseless mirror of the 1990s, perhaps the American space program does seem to be the stuff of "Truett dreams" — fearfulness of what is written about the postmodern history of the program, my wife and I will always remember our first wedding anniversary celebration 25 years ago. How amazed we were when we could now see the Moon from our apartment balcony, while only a few feet away on the television the astronauts were sending us their fan-filled, childlike messages and "home runs." To be sure, space exploration has stirred a different cup of

But remaining constant throughout all of this has been the intelligence, adaptability and courage of the men and women striving to reach for the stars—in whatever means.

*Deey Naron,
Perry Sound, Ont.*

Phone bugs

I don't think the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission went far enough in banning unsolicited sales pitches delivered by computers ("Pulling the plug," *Canada Notes*, June 27). Why didn't they ban all unsolicited calls, be it sales pitches for vacuum cleaners, carpet cleaners, frozen meat or furs, suits and bonds, or organisations begging for money? I think a lot of "bugger" telephone subscribers will agree with me.

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Is this meal so bad?

As a definition, I am disheartened to follow Dr. Nathan Reese Schwartz's comment that "people tend to just what they like for their various diets." So then, says someone, may choose an *unhealthy* meal such as steak, potato with sour cream and a glass of wine and think they are eating well ("Pyrrhic" wars), *Opening Nuts*, July 18! What is wrong with such a meal? Assuming the meat is a lean, low-oxygen charbroiled steak, I see no problem. Say there is a tablespoon of low-fat sour cream in that such a dish isn't? Add a salad and low-fat dressing and I think we have a balanced and healthy meal.

Elaine Jean McLean
Brooklyn, Ont

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MACLEAN'S CONGRATULATES KEN GRIFFITH



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Ken Griffith was born in the province of Quebec and in 1966 he moved to Ottawa, Ontario to join General Motors. In 1970, he moved to British Columbia where he worked in a Ford dealership in service and sales. In 1980, Ken became the dealer principal of that same dealership—Richport Ford in Richmond, British Columbia.

Ken's talents in the auto industry have granted him many awards. In 1988, he was recognized by Ford as a recipient of the Distinguished Award for Quality and in 1989 he was awarded a membership in the President's Inner Circle. In 1991, he achieved the honor of being Ford's top dealership for retail volume in the Pacific Region.

His commitment to the auto association has included, President of the Richmond Autopark, and the President of Automobile Dealers Association of Greater Vancouver for two consecutive years. The community has also benefited from Ken's involvement as Chairman of the Richmond Autopark Charity Golf Tournament and the Special Olympics Charity Auction. Ken has also worked diligently with the United Way Campaign.

Congratulations Ken!



A classic case of running amok

BY MARY JANIGAN

It is perhaps a sign that an institution is truly old and established when it disturbs the dust on events as the long, 11-year-long Selous (Aggie) Agassian. He died at a stroke in 1950 at the age of 75, after serving as the treasurer of a consortium that was trying to save New Brunswick spruce from the fatal but warm He level trees. His knowledge was so extensive that he once advised forestry agencies for a Hawaiian university campus. He charged no fee for that particular service. He did it for the sheer joy. Because he had no family in Canada, he willed his ashes and his seat of office to his closest friends, my husband's family. They honored him with a eulogy read by 10 people at their lives north of Toronto last month, Ontario Hydro inspectors announced that they could not approve additional electrical service for the farm because the situation had changed under new regulations since the last installation. Now, all trees within a four-acre radius of any new house had to come down. At least 400 trees had to fall. The inspectors were particularly emphatic about Aggie's spruce. He is an outlier.

That unsettling theme epitomizes the problems that beset most large institutions, especially Crown corporations, in the 1990s. While the world around them adapts to the changing economy, they often remain hotheaded, tangled in regulations, oblivious to their customers, immune to criticism and sheltered from the signals of the marketplace. When they do change, new strategies replace old strategies with scant public consultation or debate. Every Canadian can cite an example of a department or agency that serves itself, not the public. Remember the old post office? But for the perceptible residents of Ontario, Hydro has become the classic and increasingly vivid example of an institution that has lost its way.

The corporation has been maddeningly close to the path for decades. But the voters, and their successive provincial govern-

While the world around them adapts, Crown corporations often remain immune to criticism and sheltered from the marketplace

ments, were hesitant to criticize—partly because of the corporation's godlike image as the bringer of light and its venerable history. Ontario Hydro was created in 1906 by aggressive entrepreneurs who understood that so-called access to power was, literally, power—and also found that American firms would monopolize the generating rights of Niagara Falls. To maintain the right to supply electricity at the lowest possible cost, but throughout the 1970s and the 1980s, the corporation led the provincial government itself overestimated and overbuilt for future power requirements. It swamped its would-be owners with paper. It was overvalued. And it now sits \$1.3 billion in debt, despite rate increases of 50 per cent in the early 1990s. One out of every two cents in revenues is earmarked for interest payments.

In December, 1993, the New Democratic Party government called upon a Visionary Leader that many capitalists and environmentalists. Since then, it has been a trouble-free asset. When chairman Strong was asked, he was very, very good. In a single year, he postponed or cancelled \$12.4 billion in capital projects. There was an 1994 rate increase. He reduced the staff by about 5,000 employees through buy-out packages. Another 4,000 contract employees were not rehired. The

corporation might actually show a \$200-million profit this year, after a staggering \$3.6-billion loss in 1993.

But when Strong was bad, as the old rhyme goes, he was hard. The NDP government believed that it had a tacit understanding with Strong. He would propose no major policy changes in 1994 because it was a possible election year. The trouble is, Visionary Leaders are not usually inclined to listen to advice. And they are not usually democrats. Since the Ontario Energy Board began its review of Strong's initiatives and his request for a 1.6-per-cent rate increase in 1993, Hydro has prepared 11 policy proposals for change. There was a policy paper on privatization. There was a report that identified 1,200 additional surplus staff. Then, three months ago, opposition members of the legislature revealed that Hydro was considering the purchase of a new farm in Costa Rica. It was one of 30 possible foreign projects, such as forest restoration in Panama, that Hydro was studying. While Ontario newspapers were trying to reconcile Hydro's job cuts at home with its new mission—possibly outside its mandate—to save the Earth, Hydro announced a new program. For \$20 million, over the private equities of many board members, the corporation had purchased an interest in a Peruvian electrical distribution company. In response to criticism, Strong was defiant. He asserted that Hydro would spend up to \$200 million on partnerships in high-growth markets. And he seemed to pay as little as the "whims and idiosyncrasies and unfounded judgments of individuals."

Interestingly, from 1985 to 1990, the only period for which comparable data is available, the Peruvian economy showed an average of one per cent per year while Canada grew by 2.2 per cent. And the U.S. state department's latest bulletin on Peru should have challenged Strong's order, even the Strong: "With the exception of certain tourist areas, terrorist incidents, which has distributed over the past year, companies to accept in many areas of the country." Hydro's transgression here is a prime terrorist target.

There has to be a better way to change institutions. With little public debate, Hydro has apparently become a capitalist barometer, both at home and abroad, and an ecological dogwood. While it makes little sense to privatize the gigantic monopoly, there are good arguments that could be made to privatize its non-nuclear generation systems—and to increase and competition. But with the exception of the current law, the Ontario Energy Board has been a mere little public consultation on Hydro's future. Democracy is messy—but it would be interesting to try it.

In the meantime, we did manage to save Aggie's spruce. A threat suggested that the trees would be logged and replaced. A private company offered \$2,000 to cut a branch and lay the cable. The forest is intact. Aggie's seat is at peace. With no help from Ontario Hydro, the nation has had its momentous loss revisited. "Selous Agassian 1904-1950. Good Friend and Lover of Trees."

WHO CARES?

Quebec youth seem uninterested in the election campaign

BY ANTHONY WILSON-SMITH



Inside the command post of passionately the most important source of information on the Quebec election campaign, it is sometimes difficult to tell which is the more serious-looking: the large photograph photos of some of the world's pre-eminent rock, rap and reggae bands, or the high volume series of the French rock group the Scudettes playing on the screen. On the other hand, while



the Montreal studios of Quebec's highly popular *Manusque/Fax* television network, it is equally clear what role does not get much attention these days. *Manusque/Fax*, which has a weekly audience totaling 25 million Quebecers, was widely praised for its irreverent but accurate coverage of last year's federal election, including its interviews with major political figures from all parties. "We would be lost to say that the overwhelming majority of our viewers haven't spent two minutes yet thinking about the election campaign," says producer André St. Pierre. "My job is to change that."

In an election in which the unexcitable (including in Quebec's political future within or

outside of Canada, there is no group that stands to be more affected than the province's young people. There is also, arguably, no group that appears less interested. "I get the impression from here that the rest of Canada is trying to tell you great facts about this election," says Richard Martineau, 33, the editor of the popular Montreal weekly newspaper *Voir*. "But among our audience, it's sometimes hard to find anyone who could care less. I like to think that is a mark of confidence among our readers." Similarly, St.

rick, that about seven political campaigns would arouse as great surprise. But this is Quebec, where artists, singers and the young have usually been at the forefront of the province's cultural debate over its political future. In 1978, for example, Quebecers could look to one side of the National Assembly and see their youngest ever premier—Robert Bourassa, then 36—and to the Parti Québécois (PQ) side for the country's youngest member of a legislature—Charles Gauthier, then 23. At the same time, champagne such as Félix Leclerc and Gilles Vigneault became largely successful singing ballads that appealed to people in Quebec: independence. Close to half the PQ's members were under 35, and polls showed that as many as two of three Quebecers under the age of 30 supported independence.

These days most Quebec politicians find other things to sing about. Popular comedian Jean-Guy Monette, who became famous through his uncanny impersonations of such politicians as René Lévesque and Jean Duceppe, says that in his routine now, he stays away from politics. "The everyone else in Quebec," Most young people still support independence—but by a much smaller margin than in the past. A poll by the Montreal firm Léves & Léves in June showed that 56 per cent of respondents between 18 and 34 opposed sovereignty while 44 per cent were opposed. For respondents between the ages of 25 and 34, 58.8 per cent favored sovereignty, while 41.2 per cent opposed it.

But even those figures are probably suspect, because they presume a degree of interest in Quebec's constitutional future that is currently lacking. For the moment, young Quebecers appear to be more interested in such events as the annual Montreal Just for Laughs comedy festival and Lollapalooza, a travelling rock show that features a collection of international music groups singing almost entirely in English. The rock festival drew 35,000 people where it came to Montreal last week—a figure that is more than the entire youth membership of the PQ (18,000) or the Liberals (12,000). The reasons why young people stand far from politics are obvious enough, but the reasons why they can't put aside politics are more complex. A primary one is disillusionment. "I'm young, and trying to make my year



Manusque/Fax TV personality Genevieve Damer: "Politicians know our audience is very important to them, but they don't understand anything else about them"

ended between the Liberals and the PQ. It's easier to make you think about people off a cliff" says the soft-spoken but acerbic Damer. "Then, you look at [Liberal leader] Daniel Johnson and [PQ leader] Jacques Parizeau and it makes you see you want to jump." A more positive reason is that young intellectuals have grown up under laws encouraging the primacy of the sciences and thus have a sense of confidence in themselves that their elders lack.

But in other areas, even some politicians concede that young people—who were among those hardest hit by the recession—regard themselves as out of touch, unworldly and overly fond of killing themselves by a chance

Protest who was first elected at age 34 in 1981, is attempting to return to politics after being elected in 1985. Mr. St. Pierre, he says he finds young people "far more disillusioned and cynical than they were a decade ago." In the past few years, Damer has staged a highly publicized and successful recovery from cocaine and alcohol addiction and became director of a youth rehabilitation center in his rural riding of Berthier, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River. It is at work, rather than his personal political experience, that he stresses in dealing with the young.

Similarly, the flag-waving, nationalist borderies in an independent Quebec, that were a staple of political and artistic life in past years are no longer in evidence. Among artists, says

Michelle Lalonde, an official with *Manusque/Fax*, "it is hard to even think of contemporary music by Quebec artists that is overly political." Even those young people involved in politics put themselves on their pragmatic. "The nationalism of young people is practical," says Eric Dubé, 34, an independent of the right youth wing. "It's out of a sense of nationalism of someone based on a foundation."

In fact, the new music channel at every opportunity by nationalists receives around the phrase "Quebec again in the world"—on both business and personal terms, one sign of that was the latest and privileged dispute that erupted last week between Johnson and Parizeau over whether a sovereign Quebec would automatically be included in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Parizeau cited a remark by an American official when he would not identify who, according to the PQ leaders, and Washington would not support such a measure. Johnson suggested that the claim was "the most enormous insult I have ever seen in my life." Neither leader questioned the desirability of membership in NAFTA, and small wonder a study released last week by the Centre de l'état de placement du Québec, the provincial pension bank, showed that Quebec has benefited more from free trade than any other province.

What is missing is a sense of openness, Quebec's young have less lessons to learn from their elders. Reported polls show that more young Quebecers than ever before are bilingual and it is not uncommon to attend churches showing English language music in Montreal where it is the majority of the members are Anglophone. Montreal's St. Laurent Boulevard, the traditional dividing line between French and English, is now the point of contact for the city's most seriously bilingual people of both languages. *Manusque/Fax*, the French language network, is at the head of the parade, making a point of reflecting the changing times—on the faces of Quebec. Its hosts and reporters are all fluently bilingual and include three blacks, one of whom is an anglophone. "We want our audience to see themselves as the cosmopolitan group they are," says Lalonde.

Despite their increasing tolerance into the mainstream, it remains true that young anglophones and other Quebecers still feel more comfortable dealing themselves first in English. "Quebec has always been a part of Canada. Why separate now?" says Anne Wang, a 25-year-old Montreal accountant at Citicorp Inc. "I went to France in Canada." Young francophones who support sovereignty tend to be for granted that it would be accompanied by an economic association with the rest of

QUEBEC'S CAMPAIGN: WEEK 1

● Premier Daniel Johnson put a price tag on the separation of Quebec: \$8 billion. He said that it was now Quebecers would have to pay for and of each-changing programs with Ottawa and giving up other federal benefits. PQ leader Jacques Parizeau put the cost of independence much lower: \$283 million.

● Alberta Premier Ralph Klein said his province would have to take another look at its financial dealings with Quebec—including the \$338 million worth of Quebec bonds it holds. If the PQ won on Sept. 12, Parizeau demanded the community pay "40 cents."

"I don't want to waste any time on federal-provincial tensions, discussions, bickering that we've known for the past 30 years. We have no time to waste on these things."

— Jacques Parizeau

Finding new grounds for refuge

A Somali woman wins a fight to keep her daughter in Canada

The trial is as arduous as it is cruel. Khadija Masoom Farah was just 8 when her mother joined her mother at her home in northern Somalia. Without warning, they held her down and one of the women began to circumcise her with a newly sharpened knife. She cut off the girl's clitoris and then stitched her vulva together. With her virginity so protected, her mother told Farah that she would be able to attract a good man when it came time to marry. More than 20 years later, the 30-year-old Farah, who now lives in the Ottawa suburb of Nepean, applied for refugee status on the basis that, if she was sent back to Somalia, her own 15-year-old daughter would face similar mutilation. Now, the Immigration and Refugee Appeals Board has approved her application—the first time that a Western country has granted refugee status specifically because of fear of genital mutilation. Refugee advocates hope to build on that ruling as part of a broader effort to improve the lot of female refugees.

By granting Farah and her two children (she also has custody of a seven-year-old son)

asylum in Canada, the panel relied on an expanded interpretation of the definition of a refugee under the 1951 Geneva Convention on Refugees. The convention, on which Canada largely bases refugee claims, says individuals should be considered for refugee status if they fear persecution on racial, political or religious grounds. But it also says that consideration should be given to those who belong to a specific social group that is being persecuted. And increasingly, women are being viewed as just such a group. In March 1993, Immigration Canada recognized that when it adopted new guidelines that accept claims based on gender. "Refugee claims have largely been based on the experiences of men," says Stephen Masawa, chairman of the immigration and refugee board in Ottawa. "There was not as much attention for the circumstances facing women."

Farah's emotional testimony before the board recalled the graphic account of her own circumcision. She recounted how she moved to the United States from Somalia with her husband in 1984. In March of that year,

she left her husband and fled with her two youngest children to Canada, where she asked for refugee status—first on the grounds of political persecution, then because of the threat to her daughter. Farah was told to come twice the panel that if she was sent back to Somalia, her husband's family would quickly take her son and daughter away—said that her daughter would almost certainly be circumcised. As she described her own ordeal as a child, Farah told the panel: "I can still visualize the scene and trauma all over again."

Even under Canada's liberalized refugee rules, Masawa says few women will be as fortunate as Farah. Although nearly 80 per cent of refugees around the world are women and children, the immigration and refugee board chairman cautions that most are powerless to escape to countries like Canada. In fact, she says that only five per cent of both male and female refugees are even able to claim refugee status in the West in the first place, and the proportion of women in that group is very small. "Very few women are able to get to the West," says Masawa. "They tend to spill



Farah in Ottawa: 'I can still visualize the scene and trauma all over again'

over borders and languish in refugee camps," that there are some signs of change. 250 cases, based solely on gender were brought before the immigration board between March, 1993, when the new grounds for accepting female refugees were adopted, and March, 1994. Fewer than 50 per cent were successful, compared with

55 per cent of all refugee cases.

Still, it is highly doubtful that there will be a flood of women awarded asylum solely on the basis of actual mutilation. While the World Health Organization estimates that some 114 million women, primarily in African countries, have been ritually circumcised, Masawa says

the circumstances surrounding refugee cases vary widely. For one, an adult woman would not be able to use the fact of her own circumcision as the sole basis for a refugee claim. "It is tragic," adds Masawa. "But we can't reverse what has happened in the past."

A number of other countries have also been moving towards accepting genital mutilation as a basis for refugee claims. So far, however, only Canada has followed the lead of France, which, in 1984, became the first country to establish that female circumcision amounts to persecution, and that the threat of a public granting refugee status. And in Portland, Ore., last March, a judge ruled that a Nigerian woman being ritually there should not be deported because her two daughters would likely be circumcised in their home country.

Despite finding sanctuary in Canada, Farah is still haunted by the controversy. She told Masawa that the Somali community in Canada, which numbers more than 36,000, is deeply upset by the publicity surrounding her case because many feel it has wrongly mischaracterized the Muslim faith. She said many people believe that female circumcision is a Muslim religious ritual, although it is in fact a cultural tradition peculiar to certain countries, including Somalia. In any event, Farah's daughter will enjoy life free from the threat of sexual mutilation. "When any daughter is old enough to understand," said Farah, "she will be very happy."

JOHN FENNELL

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TOSHIBA

Unearthing a T. rex

Scientists discover a rare fossil in Saskatchewan

The badlands of southwestern Saskatchewan's Frontenac River Valley have a fresh but breathtaking beauty. Millions of years of wind and water erosion have etched the sides of the valley into, in many places, steeped the sides of vegetation. On the steeply sloping land at a valley 350 km southwest of Regina and about 150 km from the Alberta border, a team of scientists and technicians have been since June in temperatures that occasionally exceeded 40° C. Using dental tools, scalpels and pneumatic drills, they delicately excavated pieces of fossilized bone be-



Regina workers at the site of a T. rex fossil, south of the Frontenac River valley.

leaving to a creature that lived 65 million years ago—a Tyrannosaurus rex that perished in, or beside, a stream when the area was heavily forested. So far, they have found parts of the animal's skull and lower jaw bones, segments of its backbone and legs, a hipbone and a thigh bone. And each new discovery is making John Storer, one of the paleontologists working on the dig, more excited about what they will have extracted by the end of the summer.

"We are very confident," says Storer, "that we have a nearly complete skeleton here."

The discovery is important because so little is known about the four-legged dinosaur that is a special favorite of children fascinated by the prehistoric beasts. Only about a dozen T. rex skeletons have ever been found—and only about four of those are nearly complete. With its wicked rows of pointed teeth and powerful hind legs, T. rex is widely believed to have been a blood-thirsty and rapacious giant that fed on smaller members of the dinosaur family. But, some scientists have argued that because of its size—T. rex could have weighed as much as 5½ tons and stood 20 feet tall—they may have been too large and heavy to be active hunters. Storer says that the latest specimen was an adult T. rex, and it may have been larger than average. "It's a male, based on the development of serrated pectoral spines at Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum, calls the Saskatchewan team to discover "an exciting find," adding "It's nice to have an additional specimen of T. rex to study."

The T. rex first came to light in July, 1991,

on a cattle ranch owned by Daryl and Conale Allen, 34 km southeast of the farming community of Estevan. Stork Robert Gehlbach, a local school principal and an amateur paleontologist, was out looking for fossils with Storer and Tim Takoryk, paleontologist at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum in Regina, when he spotted what turned out to be part of a dinosaur tooth and a vertebra on the side of a hill. The scientists immediately suspected that it might be from a T. rex, but the significance of the find was not confirmed until April of this year, when Takoryk returned to the site and uncovered the rest of a skull, which was partially covered from one of the



large-scale excavations. In June, Storer and Takoryk set up a camp in the gully and began searching for the rest of the skeleton. The work is often arduous, because many parts of the skeleton are embedded in iron stone, a substance formed over the ages as low-grade iron ore combined with sand. "There is a massive sheet of paleontological that it's glaucous and crumbly," says Takoryk. "That's a lot of it's pick-and-shovel work." In fact, Storer and Takoryk say that a large part of the skeleton will probably have to be recovered in a huge shift of rock and bone that could weigh as much as six tons and be

taken to Regina for further work. Storer hopes that most of the dig can be completed by winter's end, but it could be three years before the delicate work of extracting all the parts of the skeleton is completed. According to Storer, the T. rex will not be put together to form a skeleton because that would require drilling through, and dismantling, the bones. Instead, as with most skeletons, casts made from the bones will eventually be assembled for display purposes.

The discovery has proved profitable for the site, however, and other businesses in the town of Estevan (population 520), where municipal officials have been charging nearly 600 tourists a week to the excavation site for a 2½-hour tour—at \$20 a head for adults and children over 6, \$13 for younger kids. The money goes to a regional economic co-operative to defray the costs of the tour. In scientific terms, the find may eventually help to cover some of the middle surrounding the T. rex, but it is not likely to shed light on one of the central mysteries surrounding dinosaurs: why they became extinct. The creatures seem to have vanished



from North America, perhaps as the result of a huge comet strike in Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, about 65 million years ago. But according to Storer, geological sciences in the area indicate that the T. rex lived near the end and lived many thousands of years before the extinction. "It's surprising," says Storer, "that we all think of finding dinosaur remains close to the point where the dinosaurs disappeared—in the hope of finding clues to the extinction. 'But we haven't found one yet.'"

MARK NICHOLS AND STUART ELSON
in Estevan

TRAGIC CRASH

About 105 personnel from the military and the RCMP launched a massive search through thick, boggy woods for missing Canadian Forces pilot Capt. Harry Munro, 42, after his T-33 Silver Star jet, from CFB Shearwater, crashed in a forest 10 km southwest of Windsor, N.S. Debris from the jet—scattered over a wide area—spanned several small lots. The body of the 26-year-old, N.S. pilot was found three days later, on July 30, four kilometres northwest of the site of the crash.

REFURBISHING THE HILL

The Peace Tower on Parliament Hill, its masonry battered by Ottawa's harsh climate, will undergo a \$2-million facelift beginning this fall. The 300-foot structure's clock and 53-bell chimes will be shut down for two years during the renovations—part of a \$20-million refurbishment of the Parliament Buildings.

OLD-TIMERS SCORE

For veterans war their first battle with the league over bigger pensions. The Supreme Court of Canada refused to hear a league appeal of a February lower-court decision requiring the HIL to give as many as 800 players who retired before 1950 up to \$55 million in surplus pension money. A recent, some players, including former star in Eddie Black and Arvey Belongue, could see their annual pension top to about \$50,000.

CIGARETTE SALES FLAT

Despite concerns that tobacco has cut to February would prompt many smokers to buy cigarettes, Statistics Canada reported that sales rose by just 0.2 per cent in the first half of 1994, compared with the same period last year. Export sales plunged 54.1 per cent while domestic sales increased by 36.4 per cent. Canadian smokers, however, that sales and export gains required shipments by manufacturers and not actual consumption—which will be reported in September.

SEARCH WINDS DOWN

A two-week search in Saskatchewan for a missing 1961 Ashby Knott was ended last week when its owners and RCMP officers abandoned efforts to find the missing jet. The disappearance on July 14 in dense, marshy bush near Tadoussac, 10 km northwest of Saskatoon, during a walk with her identical twin sister, Lindsay, and another friend. Local residents continued the search, which at its peak involved more than 500 people.

Canada NOTES



Helicopter drops fire retardant near Prediction, 2,000 people ordered to move.

Fire raging in the hills

Wildfires fuelled by hot, dry weather raged through Western Canada, the fire services, however, have been able to contain them. In the north, about 2,000 people in evacuation their homes. Most residents were later allowed to return to their homes, many of which were covered by soot and ash from the following week. But flames destroyed 33 houses just east of the Okanagan Valley resort town, leaving fire-chauffeurs standing steadily over the ruins.

The Prediction fire, which by week's end was finally moving away from the city of 20,000, destroyed at least 10,000 acres of dry pine, spruce and grass. Water bombers and helicopters carrying fire-retardant chemicals poured 250 fire-fighters in efforts to contain the blaze. Firefighters said the fire, one of more than 400 burning in British Columbia, may have been deliberately set. At midnight, angry local residents complained that authorities were slow to organize major firefighting efforts, thus allowing the blaze to run out of control.

Elsewhere in the province, firefighters battled a 1,300-acre fire in the East Kootenay region that threatened the houses of Wilmer Ascher, built at Lac Le Jeune, south of Kamloops, consumed at least 3,000 acres. In Alberta, meanwhile, lightning caused at least 49 fires. And in Saskatchewan, near 34 other fires burned. Although firefighters eventually

contained most of the outbursts, forecasts for lightning storm activity across the West posed a continued threat.

Fish wars

Federal fisheries officers, noting to assist Canadian control over offshore in international waters, issued two American ships off Newfoundland. The Massachusetts-based boats, sculpin druggers Warrior and Alpha Omega, it were seized outside Canada's 200-mile national limit and escorted into St. John's harbor, where their captains were charged with violating fishing regulations.

The dispute turned it on the seemingly obvious question of whether sculpin were sea or anadromous. Under legislation in both Canada and the United States, each country can manage anadromous fisheries even beyond its 200-mile international limit. Ottawa claims jurisdiction over the sculpin, which it maintains were only anadromous and should be regulated as anadromous. But Washington argues that the sculpin are more active, and that the U.S. fishermen, who live close to up to \$700,000 a year, were within their rights.

Meanwhile, a group of fishermen from Gaspe, Que., decided to reveal where they had placed 500 gill nets in each harbor, a restricted species, in violation of federal regulations.

CRUNCH TIME

Beset by his critics, Clinton savors some victories

The dog days of summer beat hard on President Bill Clinton as Washington's wet and sticky July eased into its final week. Beset by critics of both his personal past and his political present,

Even as Congress and its constituent foreign policy widely faulted, the President's approval rating to oppose policy lagged at a low ebb. July's low level opened on a heavily sunny note at the White House as Clinton's first foreign policy speech, "Remarks by President Clinton to the Joint Session of Congress on the Middle East," was read by Jordan's King Hussein and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Ironically ending a 46-year "state of belligerence" between the neighbor countries. But then, in two consecutive days, Clinton's remarks were sharply opposed by press accounts of ethical roadblocks in the Clinton administration in connection with the durable Whitehouse affair. And Congress declared the President's priority highly questionable. Clinton's remarks were sharply conflicting versions. But finally, a breathlessly congressional organization evolved in support and produced a resolution on Clinton's Middle East policy. On the President's remarks list, it gave a robust Clinton review to believe again in his own claim after 100 years personal sacrifice in the White House for the White House. Clinton was 1948.

Eighteen months into his four-year term, Clinton confounds a wider array of ironies and a lighter timetable than when he faced down election-chargers of an extraordinary affair, and of discerning about his evasion of the military draft during the Vietnam War. Such says Governor Flowers' recent public about the alleged after 30 months before the election of November, 1992. Now, the Clinton deadline for a political turnaround is barely three months away: the midterm congressional elections on Nov. 3. In that span, to convince voters that his administration's interests resemble Democratic idealism in Congress, he must define a series of personal and political goals, and lay out his progress on the rest of his domestic agenda. He also must try to revitalize, somewhat, the

REPORT FROM
WASHINGTON

BY CARL MOULINS

risk-policy constraints in Haiti and Bosnia

The \$20-billion crime bill, increasingly put forward for violence and funding preventive programs, is the first major Clinton-sponsored social measure to succeed. There has been little else for the White House to crow about since Clinton convinced Congress to approve the North American Free Trade Agreement last November. In his first state of the union address to Congress in January, the President listed an anti-crime law as a social

Congress hastily fashioned an agreement on the anti-crime measures. Clinton lauded their work at a justice department celebration as "the toughest, largest, smartest federal attack on crime in the history of our country."

The passage of punishment and preventive measures curtails capital punishment to cover about 60 offences, including carrying, using life imprisonment for criminals committed of three violent crimes ("three strikes and you're out") and makes violence against women a federal civil rights offence. The measure will outlaw 15 types of assault weapons and provide funds to states and municipalities to reinforce police forces by 100,000 officers. There is money for prison



McLarty at a House hearing on the Whitewater affair, ethics

priority, along with his centrist health care program and welfare reforms. Despite the wrapping of his medical insurance plan by special interests, and opposition attacks on the crime bill as being more a pre-election slash than an effective weapon against criminals, opinion polls show that health care and crime are the burning public concerns. With an eye on the November election, the respective committees of both chambers

and \$12 million for each crime prevention program as grants to youth clubs.

Following his victory on the crime bill last week, Clinton got even more good news: voters voted 87 to 9 to confirm Boston federal appeals court judge Stephen Breyer to the Supreme Court. Breyer, 55, was the President's second high-court nominee. His first, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, was confirmed last year. He & Breyer will replace retiring Justice Elwood Thomas, 85, in October.

With these accomplishments, Clatus is swelling on other blights on his presidency.



■ **The Chorus:** the next three months will determine future

To help clear the stain of scandal in cases that arise from his past as governor of Arkansas, Clinton is seeking postponement of a sexual harassment lawsuit until he leaves the presidency. The suit is based on an alleged 1991 sexual proposition he made in a Little Rock hotel room to Paula Jones, then a state

governance clerk, Maysville, Ohio, swears the outcome, possibly by summer's end, all an investigation by independent prosecutor Robert Fiske, into the Watergate affair. That case centres on financial and property dealings in the 1980s, through a now-bankrupted Arkansas savings-and-loan company, in which both Bill and Hillary Clinton took part. But it also includes developments since the Clintons moved into the White House in January 1993—the focus of hearings launched separately last week by the banking committees at both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Police at the time ruled the death by gunshot a suicide. Fishie, in a lengthy interview report on June 30, agreed. He blamed Georgetown, and said there were no grounds to believe that the death was connected with Whitewater. Despite that, rumors and some media reports persisted in surrounding the tragedy with questions. And there are also allegations that White House staff obstructed police when they sought to inspect Foster's office.

The House committee hearings suggest White House staff shied from their discussions over the months to last February, with U.S. Treasury officials about a Treasury agreement to place in court the Clintons as witnesses in a prosecution of the failed Arkansas company's officers. Despite the appearance of possible interference in that case, Mike Cheadle, a participant in criminal wrongdoing in his former report, and at last week's Capital Recovery, the participants including Clinton's former chief of staff Thomas McLarty, insisted that there was nothing unethical about the Treasury-White House contacts. Those meetings, they said, even avoided discussion of the substance of the pending charges, the talks were only designed to steer the White House to certain conclusions.

setting its 56 to 44 Senate majority. In the House, where the Democrats hold a 77-seat majority, the Republicans face a daunting challenge—and their own unbroken record as the chamber's minority party since 1980.

A Gallup poll, conducted in late July at Clinton's request, has 18th month in office placed his approval rating at 42 per cent—a steep decline from the 58 per cent following his last-care picture in his January address to Congress. That precipitous nose-dive among strong Republicans who observed that Clinton gave the same name to the previous Democrats in the White House. Jimmy Carter, at the same stage in his presidency, also lost Clinton's support. Clinton's approval rating fell from 61 per cent to 42 per cent, a second reverse. What the Republicans did not note was that the man who lost Carter in 1980, Republican Ronald Reagan, stood at roughly the same place. (44 per cent approval) at the same point in his presidency. All Reagan cared back to his reelection.

As for Clinton, he won in 1992 with only 32 per cent of the popular vote. And after last week's relief from a summer of discontent, the well-deserved comeback kid, if he ever gets out of Whitewater mess, is clearly cut to be caressed out. ☐

Letter from Cambodia

On deadly ground

Khmer Rouge rebels fight to regain power

There is something ominous in the way that Pol Pot sees signs around Angkor Wat, the sprawling 12th-century temple set amid the jungles of northern Cambodia. The four-mile-wide cemetery in ancient stone-work to ward, steeping on weeds that may disguise land mines planted by Khmer Rouge guerrillas, which have swarmed an estimated 30,000 Cambodians since 1975. The night before, the Maoist-inspired guerrillas had attempted to take over the nearby town of Siem Reap. Now, the only visible sign of war is a one-armed boy leaning against a rifle as he braces steps to his pet dog. The sounds of war reverberate through the air. "Army," mutters Sen, crouching to several meters off in the distance. Almost 15 years after Cambodians emerged from a collective nightmare, terror is once again sweeping across their land.



children and stunted adults of pearly-bling from the occasional forager. Some have lost arms or legs to land mines. Others are weaker and by malnutrition or cholera. There are few old people; the average lifespan has dropped in recent years to less than 40, according to the United Nations. "We still suffer from the days of the Khmer Rouge," says Sen Lanul, 35, whose two brothers were among the estimated one million Cambodians who perished during Khmer Rouge dictator Pol Pot's reign of terror. "There are many, many

dying people," adds Lanul, who saw lands torn through by the grass where his brothers were once buried. "Even small numbers can destroy Cambodia."

The last time the Khmer Rouge held Cambodia in its grasp, Pol Pot launched one of the world's most radical experiments in social engineering. Determined to turn the country into an agrarian utopia, the Pol Pot-led dictator systematically killed off doctors, lawyers, artists and other intellectuals. Hundreds of thousands of others died from forced labor, malnutrition and disease. Pol Pot cut postal services, telephones and all other links with the outside world—except for the odd flight from Beijing. With a town of 10,000 people, he ordered all urban residents to report to work camps in the countryside.

"They said it was for a few days at one America attacked," recalls Lanul. In fact, the camps remained largely empty for nearly four years, until Vietnam invaded and drove out the Khmer Rouge.

But now, the rebels are back with a vengeance. Having boycotted last year's elections—the crowning achievement of an 18-month-long UN peacekeeping operation that cost 12 billion and involved 22,000 soldiers, police and civilians, including about 280 Cambodians—the Khmer Rouge have gone on the offensive in a bid for power sharing. In recent months, Khmer Rouge fighters in the north have advanced as far south as Battambang, causing foreign aid workers to flee Cambodia's second-largest province. Fighting in the border has turned more than 50,000 peasants into refugees, most of them now seeking shelter in Thailand. And the secret state has closed to a trickle since the Khmer Rouge kidnapped three foreigners in April. The government has dropped its 1994 isolation position from 300,000 to less than 30,000.

As an Asian neighbor grows fat on foreign investment, Cambodia grows ever darker, squeezed by several thousand rural farmers clad in their distinctive black pajamas. The fear of many Cambodians is that unless the government brings its full force to bear on the Khmer Rouge, the guerrillas will prevail—and once again tear their country into the killing fields of the 1970s.

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DANIEL BRYANT in Phnom Penh

SERBS DEFY PEACE PLAN

Counten Serbs opened fire on a British UN convoy outside Sarajevo, killing one peacekeeper and wounding another. Following their rejection of a peace map for war-torn Bosnia—which would divide the country roughly in half between the Serbs and the Muslim-Croat federations—the defiant Serbs have begun killing the massive at the United Nations by blocking key routes into the Bosnian capital.

RUSSIA TO LEAVE BALTICS

Russia agreed to withdraw its 2,000 troops from Estonia by Aug. 31, ending half a century of Russian presence in the three Baltic states that regained their independence from the Soviet Union in August, 1991. The deal followed an agreement resolving the issue of the status of Russian military personnel living in Estonia. Moscow has already withdrawn its troops from Lithuania and has agreed to leave Latvia by the end of August.

SIMPSON'S TRIALS

The mother of Ronald Galtman, the walker who was murdered in Los Angeles on June 12 along with O. J. Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole, filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the former football star. Simpson, whose trial is set to begin on Sept. 30, has pleaded not guilty to the murders.

ITALIAN TURMOIL

Milan authorities arrested Italia's Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's brother and business partner, Paolo, on bribery charges. It was the latest blow to tycoon-farmer-politician Berlusconi, whose 10-week-old conservative government has been rocked by allegations of nepotism. In response to allegations that he was meddling in an official corruption investigation of his 219-billion-a-year media empire, Berlusconi announced that he was leaving all links with his businesses for as long as he remained in power. Meanwhile, an Italian court sentenced former prime minister Bettino Craxi to 20 years in prison for fraud.

ABORTION CLINIC MURDERS

Police in Pensacola, Fla., arrested a prostitute outside an abortion clinic after a doctor and his escort were shot and killed and another escort wounded. The suspect, Paul Kirk, is a former Presbyterian minister and the local leader of Defiance America, which advocates the use of violence to close abortion clinics. The shootings mirrored an incident on March 18, 1993, in which Dr. David Gunn was shot in the back and killed by an anti-abortion sniper as he stood in his work at Pensacola's first abortion clinic.

World NOTES



Bosnian orphan line up for inoculations in eastern Zaire: as many as 50,000 deaths

'Hell on earth' in Zaire

Cholera, Dysentery, Dehydration, Death. For some 1.7 million Rwandan refugees in eastern Zaire, life is "hell on earth," said David Toyon, executive director of the charity World Vision Canada, from the town of Goma. Officially, deaths and lack of water have killed 20,000 people since mid-July, at about 1,800 a day in the sweltering refugee camps around Goma. But 100,000 concede privately that the death toll could already be as high as 50,000. And despite increased international relief efforts—Canada dispatched food, medicine and 180 troops to the region last week—many more people are expected to die before the cholera epidemic subsides in two to three weeks. Those most at risk: mothers with newborns, young children and the elderly.

Many weary Rwandan refugees began the long trek home last week. They are mostly members of the Hutu majority, who had fled Rwanda to escape reprisals from advancing Tutsi rebels for the slaughter of an estimated 500,000 Hutu in eastern Zaire since April, when Rwanda's late President Juvenal Habyarimana was killed in a rocket attack on his plane along with the president of neighboring Burundi. Hutu Williams, spokesman for the UN high commissioner for refugees, said that at least 60,000 had crossed into Rwanda by

week's end. "But overall, to think the mood among most refugees is still negative about returning," he said. "Many people don't think it is safe to go back, despite the fact conditions in the camps here."

War and peace

In yet another Middle East milestone, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Jordan's King Hussein met in Washington on July 25 to sign a declaration ending the 46-year state of war between their countries. While the declaration left short of a peace agreement between the Hashemite kingdom and the Jewish state, it nonetheless took a giant stride toward a major step towards ending the Middle East. But while many Israelis and Palestinians have celebrated the breakthrough, the "temple of peace," as Rabin and Hussein called it, is not without its critics. Some, notably discredited former oppositionists, suspected intense tensions demand two or three in London that wounded 13 people at Jewish offices and Israel's embassy. These beatings followed a July 18 explosion at a Jewish center in Beirut that killed at least 96 people. Fearing more attacks from Muslim extremists, officials in Ottawa said after Western capitals announced increased security measures around potential Israeli and Jewish targets.

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GOING FOR THE GOLD

James Pihlstedt had never run a gold-mining company before he took over as chairman of Toronto-based Lac Minerals Ltd. last week. The background is in paper—stocks and bonds, that is. But given that Lac is the target in a multi-billion-dollar takeover battle, the 60-year-old former chairman of the brokerage firm KIC Dominion Securities Inc. has financial expertise that Lac desperately needs.

Lac has been on fire since July 7, when Peggy Witte, the brass chairman of much smaller Royal Oak Mines Inc. of Vancouver, launched a \$1-billion takeover bid for Lac. After Lac chairman Peter Allen simply resigned on July 25, the company's board of directors elected Pihlstedt to replace him. Now, Pihlstedt faces another challenge: last week, Peter Munk, the disheveled chairman of American Barrick Resources Corp. of Toronto, announced his own \$2-billion bid for Lac. And after the close of stock markets on Friday, two more Toronto-based producers, TTX Gold Inc. and Kamos Gold Corp., unveiled a joint merger proposal that would see TTX gain control of Lac's South American mines and Kamos take control of its Canadian operations. But Pihlstedt, a miner who last month completed an \$800 million merger in Canada's Arctic, has other ideas. "I'm trying to keep ahead of all these predators who are after me," he told *Minerals*. "This might turn into a bit of a circus."

Despite the late entry, Munk finished last week as the apparent frontrunner. Both Munk, 46 and Witte, 48, are offering a combination of cash and shares as their companies worth a total of about \$14 for each of Lac's 127.6 million shares. TTX and Kamos unveiled their proposal—whereby TTX president John Wickstrom was not a formal offer—at about \$13 a share, all of it in stock. This compares with the \$12.30 that Lac shares traded in before Witte's offer.

But Munk's American Barrick is larger and more highly respected in the industry than any of the other Jackson Armies Bar-

rick produced 1.6 million ounces of gold in 1990 from four mines in Ontario, Utah and Nevada, and is exploring new mines in Peru and China. Combined with the 1.1 million ounces that Lac produced at its 30 mines in Canada, the United States and Chile, the merged company would be one of the five largest producers in the world. TTX extracted 436,000 ounces from its six mines in Brazil, Chile, the United States and Canada, while Kamos mined 67,700 ounces from sites in the United States, Canada and Zimbabwe.

Royal Oak, in turn, produced 255,526 ounces last year at its five mines, all located in Canada. However, its average production cost is higher than American Barrick's or Lac's. At well Munk says his company can finance the purchase of Lac from its own cash flow, whereas Witte would have to borrow.

In a bit of typical takeover hyperbole, Pihlstedt compared Munk and Witte to pincushions. "I'm not looking, somebody comes along and extracts my eyeball, and that's the way I feel," said Pihlstedt. "And what he put back in the other pocket doesn't compensate me." As for TTX and Kamos, Lac's vice president of investor relations, John Pearson, said that, after an initial meeting, Lac had declined to pursue discussion of the proposal until it received a first offer.

Pihlstedt, in turn, kept working the telephone, trying to convince the money masters—who are the bulls of Lac's market—that he yet correct management "surface the values that we believe are in the company and let our shareholders own 100 per cent of the upside, rather than let somebody else take a large percentage of that." However, some scoffed at Pihlstedt's optimism, and called for him to simply put up a "For sale" sign. Said Norwood Lamarche, a portfolio manager with Investors Management Ltd.: "I don't think investor patience is there at the point."

As for Witte, she argued that it is no easy task to count her out. She conceded that many investors appear to be leaning towards American Barrick. But she added that Lac share-



Lac's El Indio mine in Chile: huge reserves and potential reserves

holders are playing the holders off one another in the hope of getting an even higher price. Lac shares closed at \$13.17 last week, more than either company is offering for them—a sign that investors are counting on a bidding war. "They going with the horns that is out in front now, they are hoping that the horse that is behind is going to pull forward and up their bid," Witte said. She also hinted that Royal Oak has some room to do that. "We're willing until the glow of Munk is all the street."

Even if Witte bid fails, analysts say that the former's daughter from Dallas, Nev., who acted for a career in engineering, deserves a bit of credit for shaking up Lac. The company has some of the largest and most attractive reserves of any Canadian gold producer, but it

has been rumored as a takeover target for years because of its lucrative profit performance. In 1993, a year of strong gold prices, Lac lost \$85 million on revenues of \$294 million, while Royal Oak earned a profit of \$15.6 million on revenues of \$235 million. Yet, mostly at least, Lac's sales peaked Witte.

However, in meetings with Lac shareholders since then, Witte has played on her image as a tough no-nonsense manager who has bought buy-out crises that other companies would not touch—and squeezed profit out of them. Last year, Royal Oak's average cost to produce an ounce of gold was \$121.01, while Lac's was \$109 and American Barrick's was \$224. The average spot price of gold was \$366. And Witte quickly won support for her proposal with the



"I'm trying to keep ahead of all these predators who are after me" James Pihlstedt

strong with the quality of the paper," says Pihlstedt. "There's just not enough of it."

In discussing his bid for Lac as a news conference, Munk and his wife already indicated for new opportunities in industry. American Barrick's abundant cash flow will be used to fund its own projects, declared Munk. "We believe that the strategic fit, almost like two sides of the same gold coin, is almost so obvious that we'll be able to get that story across successfully to the shareholders."

So far this year, everything seems to have gone Munk's way. In May, U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt grudgingly approved American Barrick's purchase of the rich Goldstrike mine in Nevada for \$14,000,000 under the terms of an obscure 1872 law that obliged the government to sell claims for \$5 an acre. As he did so, Babbitt acted in front of a seven-man mock charge for \$10 billion made out to the company, representing the estimated value of deposits on the site. Last week, another ally after Munk announced his bid for Lac, he attended his first meeting as the new chairman of Triton Corp. Ltd. Munk's Toronto-based holding company, Herstein Corp., recently gained a 94.5-per cent controlling interest in the troubled Calgary-based developer for an investment of more than \$700 million in cash and stock. Since then, Munk's shopping malls and office towers, including Plaza Ville Marie in Montreal and Bankers Hill in Calgary, worth a total of \$57 billion. However, because of its debt load, management and creditors sought a federal restructuring plan orchestrated by Munk.

Indeed, aside from Munk's considerable resources and overall strategic plan, James Pihlstedt, Peggy Witte and Munk's other rivals are facing his golden touch: a favorable future to be gained with.

Yet even Pihlstedt appears to be prepared for an American Barrick takeover. He told *Minerals* that he has not ruled out such a bid, despite his own status as a spread trader

A rocky rebound

Mining companies branch out to survive

With the inlaver battle for gold company Lac Minerals Ltd. at Toronto finally escalating, the Canadian mining industry finds itself in a place that it has not occupied for some time—the spotlight. Although the price of gold has largely retained its lustre over the past five years, recession-induced depressed gold supply has lately translated the price for such other base metals as copper, nickel and zinc. Now, however, industry analysts say there are signs of a turnaround: emerging markets, such as China and other so-called Asia Tigers, are increasing the demand for metals and minerals, and some commodity prices are gradually rising. At the same time, Canadian miners are badly bruised but still new to recovery by aggressively expanding their operations in South America. Still, analysts caution that the opening is unlikely any other in the industry's cyclical history—or in its overwhelmingly strange. "This recovery is delicate," says Holly Connolly, assistant chief economist with the Bank of Montreal in Toronto. "There are so many different factors

at work that we haven't seen before."

Mining is one of the most globally integrated of all industries. Prices for base metals are set internationally, based on the delicate balance of supply and demand. It is irrelevant to purchasers whether they buy a given base metal from Australia or Zambia, as long as it meets their requirements. As a result, competition among mining companies and producer nations is based entirely on price. Served from the geology of the land to environmental regulations and a country's tax structure can have an impact on the cost of production. But despite the fact that Canadian companies have dramatically reduced their operating costs and that the recent slump in the value of the dollar has made Canadian exports less expensive, domestic mining companies face a struggle. "Geologically speaking," says Connolly, "with the exception of asbestos, Canada is not a low-cost producer."

While Canada is remembered by relatively high labor costs and taxes, as well as increasingly onerous environmental controls, there are other factors impeding the sector's performance. According to geologists, Canada is



Mining in Ontario: fewer accessible 'elephants'

well endowed with so-called elephant deposits, or massive ore bodies. But instead of being near the surface, as such finds often were in the past, they are now more likely to be far underground where they are much more difficult to find and more costly to recover. "The industry throws its elephants, and it's been a while since we discovered an elephant in this country," says Terrance Desautels, a mining analyst with stockbroker BBN James Capel in Montreal.

The global nature of the business also means that events far beyond Canada's borders and its sphere of influence have a direct impact as the sector's fortunes. With the collapse of the Soviet Union in the late 1980s, manufacturing—most notably in the defence industry—ground to a halt and the consumption of base metals plummeted. As a result, countries like Russia began to accumulate

large stockpiles of metals, particularly nickel. When they began to sell off these supplies for much-needed hard currency, prices tumbled. However, with the economic recovery in developed nations and in industrial bases in emerging economies such as China and India, base metal prices have soared, on average, by about 30 per cent in the past year.

And Christian predicts that prices will increase a further 15 per cent in 1992.

That forecast is based on the expectation that world demand for copper and some other base metals will outpace supply this year for the first time since 1981. Already, copper prices, which closed the week at \$3.15 (U.S.), are close to their five-year highs.

As a result, three mines in British Columbia are now scheduled to reopen by the end of the summer. That will add almost 900 employees back to work, many in jobs paying an average of about \$48,000 a year. The exception is that approved nickel, however, is scarce. Because of persistent global oversupply, it is hovering in the \$1 (U.S.) a pound range, down from around \$5 in 1989. Such low prices are creating pres-

sure for Inco Ltd. of Toronto, one of the world's largest nickel producers. While other Canadian companies have been reporting significantly improved second-quarter earnings, Inco last week reported a loss of \$110 million on sales of \$600 million.

Overall, the depth of latest discoveries and the growing list of environmental regulations means that, since 1982, more mines have closed in Canada than have opened. This has resulted in a net loss of more than 6,000 jobs in an industry that still employs 103,000. It has also led Canadian companies to spend only 61 per cent of their exploration budgets in Canada in 1990, down from 81 per cent just five years ago.

Instead, they have increasingly shifted their focus overseas. United recently, a public and financial firm, contributed to an unattractive investment climate in Latin America. As a result, many of the massive ore deposits there remained unworked. But as these countries have become more stable, Canadian companies have rushed to supply capital and technology. So far, Canadian mining ventures have spent more than \$2 billion for exploration and development in Chile, Mexico, Argentina and Tadjikistan, Canada, in fact, is the biggest foreign investor in exploration in Chile, with more than 40 Canadian mining companies now on the scene—and more poised to join them.

BARBARA WICKENS

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PRESS

3

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REASONS
TO CHANGE
THE WAY YOU
COMMUNICATE.

PRESS

5

TO GET AN
INTERPRETER
ON-LINE INSTANTLY

PRESS

2

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The personal touch

Will we certainly don't have Peter Allen to look around any more. On July 22, after a few preliminary visits at his growing chaos of crises, the chairman and chief executive officer of Bell Canada, Michael Laid, took his ball and went home. But as he walked off the scene, advocated by the mannequins of a hostile takeover bid launched by agent Royce Laid, Allen left the business community with a provocative parting shot: he declared that he was resigning from Laid because "I am not prepared to let personalities define this takeover fight."

Typically, in corporate circles we are not talking about the wacky, whimsical personalities who grace the pages of People magazine. Nevertheless, the issue of individual character and its influence on companies, their performance and their direction is an intriguing—and legitimate—issue for discussion. How does an owner or leader such as Allen influence the valuation of a company? How can industry analysts, with all their quasi-scientific graphs, charts and portable strategies, ever account for the steps in human action and the steps in personal chemistry?

In entrepreneurial ventures, the individual and driven and the personal vision of the founder critically affect the shape of a company. In the Canadian world, it is difficult to imagine Magnus International without Frank Stronach, Hollinger Inc. without Conrad Black, Rogers Communications without Ted Rogers, Compucon Corp. without Bill Compton, Chrysler Canada or Line Enterprises without Gertrude Drabinsky or even Omega & York without the Revue's founders. But even in large-established, widely held public companies, the personal predilection and past experiences of the top executives have a direct bearing on the selection of outside directors, the recruitment and direction of other senior managers, the strategic path, the response time and the overall structure of the corporation. A case in point, microwave CEO may have a love or phobic bias, but that doesn't diminish his or her degree of internal influence.

THE BOTTOM LINE

BY DEBORAH McMURRY

In corporate takeover battles, personality plays a particularly critical part in the process. Because the confrontation is so intense and because divergent views must be articulated, the human element is exaggerated. Lining up bankers and brokers, convincing shareholders to support your bid for the spoils, convincing the board of directors to vote in your favour to the King. In 1988, when Nor Corp. of Calgary launched its campaign to take over Polystar Energy & Chemical Corp. of Toronto, the strict callousness between Nor's empty Alberta subsidiary, Bob Blair, and Polystar's about-face CEO, Bernard Janz, clearly defined the contest and split Bay Street into two camps. When Toronto investment banker Ian DeLaney set about ousting the incumbent management of Polystar, Gordon Laid, in 1990, one of his principal tactics was to vividly depict and document his adversary's cold, tactical, tactical nature. In both cases, the chairmen's bodies declared that their vision was superior and that they could realize more value from the assets at hand.

*However strongly
executives may deny
it, every company
reflects an
individual's vision
and preference*

Thus, however sincerely Peter Allen may wish to leave a personality contest to decide the fate of Laid, it is unavoidable. Recently, Peggy White of Royal Oak is likely to set the rule of the pack, reliable construction firm got short on glass, being on vacancy Peter Munk of American Barrick, the company that has suddenly emerged as Royal Oak's rival, stars in the role of the elegant interloper with a taste for lovely office furniture and a Miss Galt in the role of the school.

But Laid is undoubtedly disappointed because, at this critical juncture, there is no one to rally around, no human peg for the company's collection of many projects. Allen has been temporarily replaced by Jim Phillips, a former advertising dealer and a recent recruit to Laid's board. But it is difficult for the shareholders to generate much enthusiasm for the next-term prospects of a company that has become an agent executive search when it should be defending itself. And in the end, it is the very absence of personality that could define the fight that Allen has abandoned.

GRADUAL GROWTH

The manufacturing sector helped the Canadian economy to expand by 0.3 per cent in May. As fourth consecutive monthly increase. According to Statistics Canada, the economy's May performance compares with growth of 0.4 per cent in April and 0.7 per cent in March.

WHEAT WARS

Agriculture Minister Ralph Goodale and Trade Minister Ray MacLachlan travelled to Washington in a bid to meet a long-standing trade war with the United States over Canadian wheat exports. American officials, who claim that cheap Canadian imports are flooding the U.S. market, have already notified the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade that they may impose penalties on Canadian wheat, effective on Aug. 1. Federal officials have stated that Ottawa would likely retaliate with tariffs against such U.S. products as wheat, tomatoes, peaches, pork, pasta and fruit juices.

TAKING STOCK

Foreign investors bought \$2.22 billion of Canadian stocks and bonds in May. According to Statistics Canada, that is up from \$2.18 billion in April and just \$200 million in March. Despite that one-month increase, foreign investment in Canadian securities over the last five months of the year has plunged to \$10.54 billion from \$20.25 billion in the same period of 1993.

REGAL BID

ABC Corp., a Toronto-based communications and printing company, made a \$47.7-million bid to buy catalogue company Regal Bookings and Gifts of Toronto. ABC already owns about 8.1 per cent of the 4.77 million outstanding Regal shares. It is offering 20.75 a share for the remaining shares. The offer is conditional upon shareholders tendering at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares and upon Regal's board approving the shareholder rights plan, which it introduced in July.

THE EXPANSION LEAGUES

Sports Authority Inc., the largest full-line sporting goods retailer in the United States, intends to build four superstores in Canada over the next year. The stores of the Florida-based company, a division of Sport Goods, have an average size of 42,000 square feet—twice the size of Canadian competitors like Canadian Tire. Earlier this month, Sport Authority Inc., another U.S. sports store-style sporting goods chain, also announced plans to expand into Canada.

Business NOTES



TAKE OFF: PWA Corp., which has spent the past three years struggling for recovery, reported a \$1.8-million profit for the second quarter of 1994. But, for the first six months of 1994 PWA lost \$50.9 million compared with a \$37.7 million loss for the same period in 1993. The company is seeking a tentative agreement with pilots at the subsidiary Canadian Regional Airlines, which has been on strike since July 11. Meanwhile, 300 workers at Air Canada subsidiary Air Ontario went on strike last week.

Leaping into second

The latest development in Canada's booming corporate mergers and acquisitions field has Shaw Communications Inc. paying \$240 million to become the second-largest domestic cable television company. The expanding Edmonton-based firm has acquired the assets—including 102,600 cable subscribers—of Toronto-based Classic Communications Ltd. along with its subsidiary, Saskatchewan Communications Inc.

The deal, which must be approved by the federal Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission in Ottawa, gives Shaw a total of 1.7 million cable subscribers across Canada. Real Rogers Communications Inc., which had about Shaw in the contest for Classic, has 1.9 million cable subscribers. In March, Rogers paid \$3.1 billion to purchase communications conglomerate Mirocin

Hunter Ltd., which has cable operations in Canada and the United States. Rogers sold Mirocin Hunter's U.S. cable assets in June for \$1.76 billion to help finance the takeover.

According to industry analysts, Shaw paid a substantial premium to acquire Classic and its assets. But Shaw executives said the price was justified by Classic's record of recent growth: it has grown by about 3.1 per cent a year over the past five years compared with the cable industry average of two per cent. To finance the purchase, Shaw will issue about \$20 million of convertible preferred shares and at least \$75 million in five-year promissory notes to supplement a \$600-million loan from the Toronto-Dominion Bank. Shaw is also in the midst of acquiring several cable systems in Northern Ontario from Rogers along with its north route station, CITEM in Toronto.



A Las Vegas dealer's big bet on Canada

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Like P. G. Wadsworth's Eternal-belter Jewels, Stephen Wynn waters the roots as "a processor of oil." A charismatic wheeler-dealer out of Las Vegas, Nev., he regards himself as a visionary. On any who agree where the market is headed, he scares ahead of the competition and his vision these days is wrapped up in building mega entertainment-casino projects in Vancouver and Toronto.

By all accounts, Wynn runs a close and cheap operation that attracts huge crowds and revenues of more than \$1.3 billion a year, draws as much by the entertainment values he offers as the gambling facilities he provides. Wynn arrives in this country at a time when the provincial governments are either cutting or thinking of operating casinos—gambling has become a mainstay of \$11-billion industry, one of the few growth sectors we've got.

Although he has drawn up magnificent plans for a pair of \$2-billion projects, Wynn is facing trouble convincing local politicians that Canada is ready for the Las Vegas approach to recreation. "We have having a lot of trouble finding where my spot in the pool is," he told me during a recent interview. "It's a long river on a long road, and I'm discussing extremely charged political issues, not per se, but the old image of Las Vegas is not new to me here. It's not what I'd like to bring."

What makes Wynn different is not the size of his assets but his willingness to accommodate the changing times. He represents the corporate takeover of American gambling, the emergence of the casino as a growth in an integral part, but only a part, of being, now largely destination resorts. "How could you sell anything with just a casino?" he asks. "They're everywhere. They've got casinos all over Asia. But why do their high rollers come to Vegas on Chinese New Year?" They only gamble as part of the excitement. They're there for other reasons. There the wife I'm because it's family and it's heaven."

I'm in entertainment first and gambling second. I run resort hotels that include casinos, not casinos that include hotels.'

What's happened in Las Vegas, mostly at Wynn's hotels is that the city has been transformed into a slightly hard-edged branch plant of Disney World. The reception desk at Wynn's Mirage, for example, is backed by a 80-foot-wide waterfalls aquarium with sharks. One fish, not the card hand) and 900 other aquatic varieties swimming around an artificial coral reef. Other Mirage facilities include a 15-centimeter golden dolphin habitat, a show featuring white Bengal tigers and the 100-ton model of a volcano that spews flames and smoke on command. The second hotel project, Treasure Island, is built around a constantly shifting sea battle between two warships. Not a pushy-beasthood show girl is right.

"I'm in the entertainment business first and gambling second," says Wynn. "I run resort hotels that include casinos, not casinos that include hotels." Even that means he could do without casinos? No way. "You can't build these luxury resorts from more reliable revenues. It's the extra \$200 per room or so you make a day from the casinos and retail sales that determine how extravagant your facilities are and how much debt you can service." (The Mirage requires a daily turnover of \$1.3 million from all sources simply in order to

break even. Slot machines produce, on average, \$200 daily, meanwhile, the house edge for roulette is 5.5 per cent, for craps it ranges from one to 36 per cent, and for blackjack it is just 1.7 per cent.)

The 53-year-old Wynn, who *Pittsburgh Courier* listed as the highest-paid executive in America in 1991 (the year he received \$48 million in total compensation) doesn't own a gun and wears no police rings, though he used to favor Duall's Monochrome rings. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in English literature, he helped run his parents' baggy ball and made his original stake in a real estate deal with the late Howard Hughes. He has won reputations as a fighter, bodybuilder, rock climber and woodworker, but the most fascinating, though little-known, fact about Wynn is that, at 20, he was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa, a degenerative eye disease that reduces his field of vision and may eventually make him blind. As it is, he can't see clearly around his office, yet he carries him self with such graceful aplomb that few visitors are aware of his affliction.

Of his current projects, Wynn is most enthusiastic about the \$1-billion cruise-ship terminal, hotel, casino, convention center, and retail, arts and entertainment complex he wants to build on 45 currently deserted acres adjoining Vancouver harbor. The project would create 15,000 permanent jobs, and even though British Columbia already has 13 casinos, the B.C. government, which originally backed Wynn's application, seems now to be backing off. Wynn, who says he has already spent more than \$1 million on preliminary plans, remains committed. "This," he declares, "will be like the Sydney opera house. This will be one of the most famous projects in the world. It makes you wonder if you're a guy like me. I'm willing to do this without a dollar of public money. I'm going to dedicate myself for four years to get it done. This isn't about organized crime or prostitution or taking anything away from Vancouver. I'll become the most powerful member of this community you've ever met. I want this project so bad I can taste it."

The \$1.2-billion Toronto project (proposals has temporarily run into snags with at the provincial and municipal levels when he was considering putting it into the underdeveloped grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition. But he has not wavered, and secured a favorable decision from federal Deputy Minister John Manley, whose parliamentary secretary, Dennis Mills, has organized the Toronto Liberal caucus behind the project. Attention has now switched to the beleaguered Canadian National railway lands between the city and Oshawa, where Wynn plans to build a new home for Montreal's Cirque du Soleil theatre group, as well as a convention center, first-class hotel and casino. Wynn has also brought in Time Warner to help with the planning of a theme park that will be more like a permanent Expo. Preliminary estimates claim Wynn's three would create 15,000 new jobs.

If anyone can make it happen, it's Steve Wynn.



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PEOPLE

Sex and sensibility

"Nothing good," says Stephen Fry, narrating one of the themes of his best-selling novel, *The Hypocrites* ("has ever happened in this world that hasn't been the result of work, industry and intelligence"). Best known in Canada for his snooty observed role in the TV series *Jenny and Winston*, the 35-year-old novelist,

actor, playwright and British cultural icon may well be living proof of that contention. Besides *The Hypocrites*, his rhubarb, scotchily satirical look at sex and self-delusion among the British privileged class, Fry has recently completed work on another TV comedy series (the fourth instalment of *A Bit of Fry and Laurie*) and co-starred in his first Hollywood movie (*Q & A*), an upcoming romantic comedy with Meg Ryan and Tim Robbins. It seems a wonder where the satire Londoner gets all that energy. "It's an interesting point, that," Fry says. "About five years ago, I got it from South America, but I decided that was rather a bad idea. Wasn't good for the social causes." But sensuality, work and pleasure seem inseparable for Fry, and he has little time for devotion. For instance, he has long been openly gay, but claims he has been celibate for the past decade. One reason, he says, is a lack of time to devote to a relationship, but another is simple habit. Adds Fry: "Once you've got your soul pinned where you're used to sleeping alone, the idea of welcome up to find other human being is so repulsive." Given his effluence, however, isn't it somewhat ironic that much of *The Hypocrites* and its humor has to do with, well, sex? "I suppose," he explains, "public-school tradition at full bore, that the superior men were of the price."



Fry: the power of 'work, industry and intelligence'



Arden: 'It just blew my mind'

A matter of responsibility

Calgary's John Arden is known for writing songs about heartbreak and loneliness, but she is learning the hard way that people sometimes read unintended messages into her lyrics. Take, for example, the reaction to *Will You Remember Me*, a haunting track from his 1992 debut album, *Time For Mercy*. Arden, 32, says she composed the song "because I was thinking about how I would like to be remembered." Soar at her fans, however, interpreted the lyrics—"I tried to be honest, it's hard not to lie. Will you remember me after I die?"—as an ode to suicide. "I heard from one girl who'd thought the record to leave to her parents, because she just didn't see any point in living," the singer-songwriter recalls. "After reading her letter, I sat down and wrote it just blew my mind." Arden, whose second album, *Living Under June*, is being released this month, has since struck up a friendship with the girl, but the experience left the songwriter shaken. "When you write a song, you don't think about what people are going to draw from it," she adds. "But just to live with myself, I'm going to have to assume that responsibility."

physician, followed by the creation of the character in question in down-to-earth language. The tapes went on sale in North American drug stores last month, and Packman says that he and Clesce could eventually produce about 100 videos. Clesce, who is also currently working on the script for a movie that will feature the same stars—herself, Jamie Lee Curtis, Kevin Kline and Michael Palin—as his 1988



Clesce: anxious to deliver

Robert Beckman, an English-born Toronto cancer specialist, Clesce made the videotapes over dinner at a Japanese restaurant in London just about two years ago, says Beckman. "I kept at it as the opportunity." So far, the two have produced 25 videos, covering topics from angina and arthritis to skin

ail. A *Flak Colloid* (Beckman is even more apologetic about the medical videos, "I suppose," he says, "they'll just go on and on")

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Healthy information

In 1988, British comedian John Clesce went to see a doctor about his knee, which he had strained while playing squash. The star of the Monty Python TV comedy series recalls that he once saw being confused by the physician's explanation of what was wrong. But the experience gave him an idea. "When we're anxious about being ill," says Clesce, "it's a bad time to take in information. I thought, if you could put basic information about illnesses on videotape, then people could watch them at home and replay sections they didn't understand." To that end, Clesce teamed up with an old friend—Dr.

SOME BOYS!

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

It is disconcerting to meet Mick Jagger in the flesh. Like most living legends, he exceeds expectations. Showing up for an interview with *Marlowe's*, he walks into an empty dining room at Crescent School, the private boys school in North Toronto where *The Rolling Stones* spent most of July rehearsing. Looking pale and disheveled, he is dressed in an unbuttoned short-sleeved shirt, light beige pants and running shoes. Although he is known to be short, and unpossessively slim, his slenderness still comes as a shock, the chicken-bone chest, a few baby hairs peeking through the half-buttoned shirt, his frame a scraggle under the clothes. The face is familiar—for paper boys! that seems too big for the body, the elongated mouth. But in repose, the exaggerated features seem slack, a mask waiting to be mutated. The eyes look fatigued. Yet the lips seem softer, more delicate than in

the photographs, the cheekbones less potent. It is a face that does not quite add up, a picture of restless adolescence one moment and jaded middle age the next.

He is ushered into a classroom with no desks, selected by the publisher for privacy. "Oh my gawd," mutters Jagger, looking about around the barren room. Finding a little red plastic chair is a comfort, he sits down to talk. Why, more, the accented English flows, is as rib-ty as the face, the voice of a man with a secret fear of being bored to death by the same old questions. The head's handler has warned Marlowe's that the Stones are led up with the media's fixation on their age, and that Jagger will walk out "if we more wonder who's what it like to be 51 years old." But, inevitably, the Award comes up. "Everybody brings it up," sighs Jagger. "I don't really care." Age, he states, does not cramp his performance. "My message's better than it ever has been. I can't make do the sort of jumps I used to. But I do other things, different dances. And I can still cover a lot of ground, we do don't really worry me very much. I can do everything I did five years ago just as good, if not better. I have a lot of control."

So there.

Like their front man, *The Rolling Stones* keep defying expectations. They are a braying, howling, howling—screaming proto and rag-tag maffiosos, a fifty-six gang of cigarette smokers who still manage to look lean, mean and frantically unbuttoned. And as they rubback on their yearlong Voodoo Lounge world tour this week—in fact, off in Washington on Aug. 1 and comes to Toronto on Aug. 19 and 20 and Winnipeg on Aug. 23—the Stones can still make a plausible claim to being the greatest rock 'n' roll band in the world.

Now in their fourth decade, they are certainly the world's oldest great rock 'n' roll band. Jagger, who is a grandfather turned 51 last week, Robert Keith Richards is 50. Drummer Charlie Watts is the eldest at 55, guitarist Ron Wood the youngest at 47. (Guitar player Darryl Jones, who replaced 37-year-old retiree Bill Wyman, is just 32, but he is not officially considered a *Rolling Stone*.)

Marking back to the era that started it all, the Stones are rock's unadorned royal family. And while their longevity has been the butt of jokes, it has also become a badge

COVER

The Stones are still rolling and still hot as they launch a Voodoo tour

Jagger, with Stones (right) at Toronto club date; lean, mean and frantically unbuttoned



JOHN ROSS

Fast break.

BY JAMES DEACON

Even days before the host of the 1994 World Championship of Basketball in Toronto and Hamilton, the home team was scrambling in a scramble-filled gymnasium. The University of Toronto facility resounded with the squeals of rubber shoes on gleaming hardwood and the grunts of exertion as the players stroked not only against one another, but against the heat. Sweat was in the air, the humidity was better suited to hydroponic gardening than to basketball, but the players soldiered on, pushing themselves for the challenges ahead. They will not have to endure the same sweltering atmosphere at Maple Leaf Gardens, where Canada will play its first two games in the 11-day tournament beginning on Aug. 4. Organizers will provide temporary air-conditioning in that otherwise stifling building. But at the severity gym, the players would have to make do. "We've been here since three in the morning, but Canada will play its first two games in the 11-day tournament beginning on Aug. 4. Organizers will provide temporary air-conditioning in that otherwise stifling building. But at the severity gym, the players would have to make do."

Hotter-than-Camden traditionally have not paid much attention to basketball, despite its worldwide popularity and the fact that it was the basketball of James Naismith, a native of Alameda, Ont., near Ottawa. But that is about to change—or so basketball's backers hope. The National Basketball Association has awarded exclusive franchises to Vancouver and Toronto, to start play in the 1995-1996 season. And, more immediately, the world championship will be the first to boost the presence of an NBA all-star team—called Dream Team II after the U.S. squad that dribbled off with the gold medal at the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona. The media attention paid to such successes in Canada might reshape the way Canadians view basketball.

Wizards of basketball thought that the once obscure world championships—and Canada's mostly unknown soldiers in the Maple Leaf singles—were just prime time. And that, say organizers, is precisely the point. "I'll bet that a lot of Canadians probably did not know that we have a national basketball team before this event," said John Blake Jr., who headed the bid to bring the event to Toronto—the same John Blake Jr. who has won the "Toronto Raptors NBA franchise." "By the time the event is over, some of these kids may even be household names."

Well, maybe the food-service magazine acknowledges that the event has not been the most real NBA professionals were not allowed to participate in the previous 11 world championships, so the competition got wide coverage in North America. Still, he and the organizing team bid for the tournament in 1989 after the original one, Belgium, became unavailable amid Yugoslavia's political strife. "We

Canada hosts the World Championship of Basketball



Fast and furious: not conceding anything

assume the myself, who has always been a diehard basketball fan, this event seemed like a great opportunity." Brave soul. Fifteen corporate sponsors, including Coca-Cola, Refrigo's and Sears Canada, felt the same way. They collectively underwrote part of the tournament's \$11 million in costs in hopes of winning the attention of basketball's youthful fans. Organizers say that income from sponsorship and ticket sales exceeded the breakeven point two weeks before the championship began. The profit will be split 60-20 between Canadian amateur basketball organizations and FIBA, the sport's world governing body.

For the Canadian team, the world championship presents an opportunity to regain its pride after a couple of down years internationally. In 1982, the Canadians lost their bid to compete in the Summer Olympics when what was touted as one of Canada's greatest teams ever suffered a heartbreaking one-point loss to Yugoslavia in the final qualifying game. Last summer, edging away of its top players, the team finished seventh in a world championship qualifying tournament in Puerto Rico. But Canada could afford a low ranking—it was guaranteed entry as the host country. The country's current members say they are ready to make good on that free pass. With team cost help from some of the championship's sponsors, coach Ken Shields was able to keep 14 players, including for the first time Toronto and guard J. D. Jackson of Vancouver.

World Martin Kneiss of Toronto and guard J. D. Jackson of Vancouver, together throughout the year to form the nucleus of the team. Boston Celtics forward Rick Fox, a Toronto native, signed on after the NBA season ended, as did several professionals who play in Europe and South America, including seven-time center Greg Willner from Seattle, B.C. "We have improved significantly over last year, which we had to do," Shields says. "Last summer was a learning thing, coming up with a core of guys who would commit to the program." Shields offered no predictions about how Canada would finish, but added, "I think that we are going to surprise some people. We can compete."

To some extent, the tournament sends Canada to do well to survive interest around the country. "Because it is in Toronto, there will be a lot of pressure on us," says Kneiss. "But we are aware of that because we have paid all our own." The team showed promise during a recent tour in Europe, where it recorded victories over Russia, Germany, Italy, Croatia and Spain—losing only once to the same Spanish team. Those performances, and perhaps the home-court advantage, have prompted analysts to predict that Canada will trade Croatia, Spain and Russia for the silver and bronze medals. But Canada must first finish in the top two of its tournament pool, which includes Russia, Argentina and the surprisingly strong Americans. "The goal is to qualify for the



O'Neal shows the Germans in pre-tournament play: a confident Dream Team II

medal round, the final eight teams," said Rick Tracy, executive director of Basketball Canada. "It's that hard, anything can happen." Nothing recent beat the Americans, the overwhelming favorites to capture the gold. The second coming of the Dream Team has been wisdom for the event's profile. All of its games are expected to sell out and will be shown on national U.S. television. That it has also derived the event of trust of its competitive value. Not surprisingly, the Dreamers sound supremely confident. "I want to deny the competition," declared Indiana Pacers sharpshooter Reggie Miller. To motivate themselves, the Americans were intent on topping the performance of even the original Dream Team, a historic collabora-

tion of mythic talents that included Michael Jordan, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson. "My opinion is that the second Dream Team is younger and faster than the original," said Seattle's Shawn Kemp. Don Nelson, the team's head coach, is more diplomatic but no less certain. "It's going to feel very special when we win the gold medal," Nelson said. When, not if.

Currently, the U.S. team possesses extraordinary firepower. In two years in the NBA, O'Neal has established himself as one of the sport's dominant players. "Without him been called 'the best one highlight film' for his spectacular scoring track. Others—Alonso Mourning, Mark Price, Steve Smith and so on—are less recognizable but no less formidable on the court. Nelson's main task will be to convince players who are the main men on their respective NBA teams to play smaller roles on the national stage. "I have 12 great players," he said, "and there aren't enough minutes of playing time for all of them."

The NBA did the event a favor in forcing its players to compete for the United States, but the league got its own reward. Rick Wells, president of NBA Properties, and involvement in international events has increased awareness of the league and its stars around the world. As a result, annual sales of NBA licensed products outside the United States have grown to \$600 million from \$14 million since the inception in 1987 of the McDonald's Open—a basketball round-robin tournament featuring an NBA squad against European club teams. The biggest jump occurred following the original Dream Team's Olympic success.

There is no doubting the game's spread worldwide. Brazil, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Spain and Italy, among others, all support top-level pro leagues. Despite the troubles associated with money and neighborhood civil strife, Croatia boasts a powerful basketball program that has yielded NBA stars Toni Kukoac of the Chicago Bulls, Drazen Petrovic of the Celtics and the late Drazen Petrovic, a pure scorer with the New Jersey Nets who was killed in a car crash in Europe last summer. Although South Korea and Egypt are not expected to challenge the Jews, their place in the world championship testifies to the sport's global appeal.

The long-term hope of Canadian officials is that basketball will enjoy the grassroots growth that baseball experienced after the Montreal Expos and Toronto Blue Jays joined the major leagues. In the early 1970s, there were only a handful of Canadians playing at all levels of professional baseball while now there are dozens in the minor leagues and none in the majors. But basketball has already made an impression on young Canadians, far when Nike favored clothing—Chicago Bulls jackets, Charles Hooton hats—has become status symbols. "The growth of the sport's popularity was

happening before the world championship and the NBA's expansion into Canada were being discussed," said Basketball Canada's Tracy.

Now, the country is in its finest entertaining basketball. And—call it blind faith—the Canadian team has not conceded the gold medal to the Americans. "We know that it is a David-versus-Goliath situation, that the United States team is superior," said Shields. "But there isn't even a spark of hope. They may be the Dream Team, but for us, this is a dream opportunity. What have we got to lose? If they cannot pull off a miracle on hardwood, the Canadians are willing to settle for a more modest goal. Someday, they say, they would like better training facilities than the swanky gym in Toronto. □

Move over, hockey: hoops is here

Canadian kids are already playing basketball—and playing it well

This is what Canada is not like. "We took our team to Indiana," says Jay Triano, basketball coach at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, B.C. "We drove from Toronto in a Minivan, and the players tried to count the number of burgers they ate in between. But they were so busy they didn't say, 'It's not like this, it's not like this, it's not like this.' Someone would say, 'There isn't one at that house.' But then, 'Yeah, there is, it's around back.' The place is just basketball nuts."

"It's a religion in the States," agrees Michele Belanger, women's coach at the University of Toronto. "It's a cult. I mean, it's wonderful. We just don't have that."

No, what Canada has is ice rinks, local arenas all, and trying to boost basketball is a kind of grudge and pride is never going to be as easy as, say, making a tenth-century leap. But more and more Canadians are playing the game: 400,000 now at organized levels, up from 200,000 in 1980. Many were drawn by the National Basketball Association's razor-sharp appeal or by the simple fact that, compared with high-priced hockey, basketball is cheap, requiring nothing more sophisticated than the waxy sneakers kids wear anyway. And Canadian kids are playing well. They are bigger, quicker and stronger than in former times, and they are getting better local coaching at younger ages. About 80 are now playing at U.S. colleges, a number that has doubled over the past decade and remains a point of both pride and contention—Canadian coaches, obviously, want to keep the top talent home. And fans in their millions just as the World Cup was supposed to raise soccer's profile in the United States, so the World Championship of Basketball beatings at Toronto and Edmonton this week—and the coming of the NBA to Toronto and Vancouver next year—will be basketball's latest court conquest in the Canadian consciousness.

"We're going to give hockey a run for its money," Triano, a former national-level player, "What I love in it, it's not close."

Triano now coaches as coach of the national junior team, and he spent last week teaching and scouting prospects at the junior championships in Waterloo, Ont. It was a showcase for 240 of Canada's best young players, men and women, 16 years old and under, and it was testimony to how far the Canadian game has come. "There's a tremendous difference from over 10 years ago," said Jan Bird, president of the Ontario Basketball Association. "The game used to be more set, more static." Bird was talking during a contest between the Ontario and Manitoba men's, a game of frantic cutting and squeezing and shooting ("Shooters!" "Defence!"—) sport on fast forward. The players roared in delight from Ontario's speedy five-foot, six-inch point guard, King was up at Manitoba's seven-foot, 270-pound center Todd MacCulloch, who moved slower but made worse—once stars donk shoot the basket for 30 seconds.

MacCulloch is a very large example of the recruiting problem fac-

ESSAY BY BOB LEVIN

ing Canadian universities. A crop-haired Winnipegger who once scored 78 points in a high-school tournament game, the 38-year-old MacCulloch is "a potential national treasure, a potential NBA player," said Manitoba coach Dale Bradburn. And he is already heading for the States to chase the University of Washington in Seattle only seven 10-hour drives, he explained, because "it was the best thing for me, a better opportunity to improve in basketball, and the school has very good academics." Canadian schools do, as well, and their stringent academic entrance requirements make it tough in Canada to recruit.

So does the fact that only Simon Fraser among Canadian universities offers full athletic scholarships. But Triano, the Simon Fraser coach, enforces a cautionary note for Canadian kids who try to "the big dream" of U.S. basketball: many become marginal players in America and receive huge dis-baskets and without degrees.

For Nancy Church, the big dream is to play one day for the national women's team. A 16-year-old high-school student from Guelph, Ont., Church is a workaholic ("Well, I like to think I am, maybe not quite") who spent her basketball over soccer and volleyball—reflecting the growth in the women's game. Young women love basketball's speed and unpredictability, said the University of Toronto's Belanger, who also coaches the national junior team, "and they like that they can be somewhat aggressive and yet not lose their femininity, not lose their identity." Or, as Church put it, "We don't back down." That was evident in a spirited struggle between the women's teams from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, a Maritime neighborhood showdown in which players dove headlong for loose balls and tangled ferociously under the boards. "They're physically tough, they're technically sound, and they want to win," said one spectator. Basketball B.C. president Rick Macle, "I see which way they cut and pivot and pass, they're really well coached. Look at that pass, look at that pass."

For young men and women alike, basketball gets in the blood, as addictive as drug. It demands a player's grace and a fighter's grit—a game of rhythm and bounce. The rhythm is apparent in the way many of the Canadian kids walk over the court, a kind of side-to-side strut, as though constantly dribbling from one hand to the other; and in practice, looking to coaches, some can barely contain themselves, bouncing around or taking imaginary jump shots. Once assembled, the national junior men's team will play in a world championships qualifying tournament in Argentina starting on Aug. 26; the women do not begin qualifying until 1990. But all the young players represent the future of Canadian basketball, the presumed core of the nation's Olympic team for the year 2000 and beyond. While by then Canada will have a few hardwood heroes of its own—maybe even one who gave up hockey for hoops.



Future star: looking for a few hardwood heroes

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HARRIS

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SPORTS FRAYNE



Even normal folks can drive and putt

BY TRENT FRAYNE

Golf is one of the few remaining civilized games in which a normal person can play—that is to say, anyone under six feet tall and, uh, 375 lb.—has a remote chance of winning in the upper reaches of competition.

Take hockey: Good nutrition is making most kids taller, and year-round weight training is turning players into incandescent Arnold Schwarzeneggers.

Take football: Blimpies (B) the defensive line, 300-lb. human specimens. Charlie Ward, the quarterback for Florida State University last season, the 1993 winner of the Heisman Trophy as the best college player in the known galaxy, was not selected by a single team in the National Football League's possession draft. *Powerup? Power* are at six feet, two inches, 330 lb., he was too small for the pros.

Take basketball (nuff said) Nobody under the height of eight feet, three inches is allowed in the building.

Take baseball: Anybody know a short pitcher? They're all approximately six feet, two inches and up, tapped by Randy Johnson, a six-foot, 20-inch former Expo left-hander currently leading American League hitters for the Seattle Mariners. Jimmy Sosa, a midsize Blue Jay saw the Yankee bellwether, is considered a screwup guy getting by on control and changes of speed, too fragile to throw hard. *Frangible?* Just six feet, six inches and 190 lb.

Take hockey: An occasional runt, such as Toronto's Dwight Whitely-Buschinsky (five feet, nine inches, 300 lb.) is allowed in the rink without a ticket; but, generally, standouts such as Vancouver's Trevor Linden or six feet, four inches aren't particularly conspicuous.

Now I remember a conversation with Freddie Stewart back when the late Fred ran the Broad Street Studios in Philadelphia. He was five feet, 18 inches or so and lean, and he said to me one day during a Flyers practice: "Look at those guys. Can you believe that when I

Golf requires technique more than strength. Indeed, without technique in golf, strength is no asset whatever

played for the Rangers I was a defenceman?"

Nowadays, players tower over people the size of the late Freddie and numerous other stars of another time, such as Terrible Ted Lindsay or the twin water bugs, Doug and Max Bentley or, before them, the unusual Ring Clancy, all of five feet, eight inches. Now, even line forwards at six feet, four inches and 225 lb. does not look out of place on the benching some of old defencemen in the first round of the 11 June.

Leaving golf standing almost alone there's also soccer) as a game normal folks can play for profit. If you look at the world's best golfers, you'll observe that the top of the lineup, Nick Price, is a scrawny Scot. Tom Nick is just five feet, eight inches and Jeff Sluman, the former PGA champion, resembles a small child at five feet, seven inches and 140 lb.

Women can play golf, too, against they can handle it at a high level instead of their lives. That's because golf requires technique more than strength. Indeed, without technique in golf, strength is no asset whatever.

Throughout its entire history in mid-July when the Ontario Ladies' Golf Association staged its amateur championship tournament over the severe hills and dips of the

Mid-River Golf and Country Club some 100 km north of Toronto. I went up there because Marlene Stewart Strain was competing, and I hadn't encountered Marlene for, yep, July 42 years.

For it was early in 1952 that Ralph Alton, the *Mailman's* editor back then, dispatched me to the village of Pothill near Niagara Falls to do a piece on Canada's newly elected winner of the year Marlene Stewart, not yet 35 and on the brink of an amazing career on the world's golf courses. I wrote then that her face was "freckled, girlish, un-crimped and crowned with a cropped thatch of chestnut hair." Also that she "wore sweaters and skirts and two-piece suits, shoes and white athletic socks." She asked help for her golf instructor, Gordon McInnes, the pro at the Lookout Point Country Club, the local course where she got interested in golf as a child. She was five feet and a half inch tall, weighed 308 lb., and when she hit a golf ball it could hardly have travelled straighter even if controlled by radar.

The following year, just past her 35th birthday, Marlene won the British amateur championship at Porthill in Wales, and the title called her Larkie Miss Robert Dennard Hackett, a control of London's national newspapers, wrote glowingly of her "We have seen a girl who will surely become the greatest ever woman golfer."

No one had a real chance to assess Hackett's forecast because Marlene's tour did not coincide with the explosion in women's golf and the coming professional tour. And, anyway, her husband, Doug Strain, a proknight, was well enough of himself that Marlene didn't have to pursue a living chasing bodies. The Strains had two daughters, Darlene and Lynn, and Marlene never did turn pro.

But in the years that followed her British victory, Marlene reached a golfing pinnacle. She beat America's old of Pinner Junior Center for the U.S. women's amateur title in 1956 and in 1963 won the Australian amateur in Sydney. Three years later, she was invited to join the women's world amateur championships in Mexico City and, in 1965, she added the United States Golf Association's senior title. Oh yes, not to be overlooked, she has won the Canadian amateur crown 11 times and also was Ontario's professional title 11 times.

Now here she was again at this rolling Mid-River course north of Toronto, still tall, still trim, walking in bank strides in pursuit of the distant ball, her feet shots reeling on bags, straight rides a couple of hundred yards down the middle, her approach hit up the greens, her putts flitting with the breeze but this time resolved to provide a subtle score. She finished her last fourth, trailing the winner, Winnipeg's Alison Robertson, the Marlene's champion, by five shots after three rounds in the upper 70s. "I putted well," Marlene reflected, "but the ball just wouldn't stop."

Ah, well, at 60 those things happen. Who, under golf, can come that close without making on their mistakes?

Letter from Bodo

Rats on the run

A patrol defends Alberta against furry rodents from the east

BY MARY NEMETH

The pest control officers drove along gravel roads, just fields colored dull gold with the stubble of last year's wheat crop. It was early in May, and the snow was off Alberta's rolling prairie landscape. So the officers had no time to waste: The Narvay rats, those varmints from the east that stalk across the Saskatchewan border, had to be dispatched. The Alberta boys and girls, would soon be dispatching their young. The officers were armed with shotguns and 22-caliber rifles and converging on a farm near the town of Bodo, 230 km southeast of Edmonton. It was there, just across the road from Saskatchewan, that farmer Blake Wastler's 11-year-old son had found a rat under a woodpile a week earlier. A subsequent inspection of the site uncovered a veritable infestation. "I

mean, every rat that ends up in the province, ends up dead."

The Alberta government spends \$250,000 a year on rat control, even at a time when Premier Ralph Klein's Conservative government has made deep spending cuts in other departments. Dolansko argues that the province is worth every cent. If rats were to infest Alberta, he maintains, they could cause \$55 million a year in damage to crops and buildings. In fact, experts estimate that, worldwide, rats consume an astonishing one-fifth of all field crops. And in neighboring Saskatchewan, where rats peaked in the 1930s, the provincial government, rural municipalities and the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool spend more than \$700,000 a year in marsh areas alone on pest control. Most of that money goes towards controlling the rat population—although of



they dispatch, if you miss any today," said Don Doherty, one of three full-time and three part-time officers who maintain a vigil along the Alberta-Saskatchewan border. "We probably won't find them until next spring." By then, he said, a pair of rats introduced in a rice, county prairie bio could produce 400 to 1,000 offspring.

Narvay rats—one of the most destructive rodents known to mankind—first arrived on the east coast of North America by ship from Europe about 1775. They advanced inexorably westward, by as much as 10 km a year, eating and contaminating crops, chewing up wells, undermining buildings and sewers, and spreading disease. But in 1950, when the rats crossed into Alberta, provincial officials drew a line at the prairie soil. They established a cordón sanitario that now stretches 25 km wide and 580 km long, from Coal Lake in the north to the U.S. border in the south. Ever since, pest control officers have patrolled that buffer zone—hunting, poisoning, shooting or gassing every last rat that barges up the heavy pine on the Alberta side of the border. "One way or no other," says Michael Dolansko, head of Alberta Agriculture's rat control

■ **Taking aim: chasing out the buffer zone along the Alberta-Saskatchewan border**

service has little hope of ever eradicating them.

The border patrol is a point of pride among Albertans. But outsiders often scoff at the province's claim to be one of the only inhabited regions on earth that is free of Narvay rats. "You pretend something like that, everyone's on your case," says Doherty. But he says this rats multiply so quickly, it would be impossible not to notice if even a single pregnant female had penetrated into the Alberta interior. "It would be a matter of six to nine months," he says, "and everybody would know about it."

The success of the Alberta rat control program relies on a simple fact of nature: life. For all their resilience, for all their ability to propagate, the rats have a critical weakness: they cannot survive the harsh prairie winter without the shelter and food they find where humans live. In order for rats to invade new territory, human settlements can't be further apart than the distance the rats can travel in a year. Along Alberta's southern border with Montana, where farms are few and widely dispersed, the rats have never established a foothold. Nor can they advance across the unsheltered forests in northern Alberta,

or the mountains along the western border with British Columbia. The central part of the border with Saskatchewan, thick with grain and cattle farms, is the rats' primary point of penetration.

Just a few kilometers from that frontier, in their pretty white farmhouse near Claresholm, Alta., live Don and Beate Doherty. Parents of five grown children and grandparents 11 times over, the Dohertys are the first husband-and-wife team in the history of Alberta rat control. "And you'll find us a bit anxious," said Don Doherty, 58, who took over rat control in the Wheatbelt municipal district 35 years ago when the couple gave up dairy farming. Beate, 56, began working for the Province, east and south of Don's district, six years later. "We had kids young," explained Don. "When our kids grew up, Beate wanted to do something different." Pest control is no work for the faint of heart. And when Beate Doherty was first hired, several of the farmers in the area wondered if she was up to the job. "I was accused, being a woman, of being afraid of mice and rats," she said. "One day they had the darndest to get me to pick up a mouse. Finally, I picked up some babies and I said, 'Ah, yes, we'll have these for supper.'" She was joking, of course. "But I proved a point that day," said Beate, clearly pleased with herself.

Most of the rat control officers' work involves bait, killed rats dotted with strong sugar and laced with warfarin, an anticoagulant that makes the rat bleed from both the inside and out in about six days. The officers distribute the bait to farmers and by late autumn, when they suspect an infestation. They also do a visual check of every possible rat refuge—from barns to abandoned sheds. Beate checks about 700 sites annually as her 58-year-old partner, Don, checks a year for the sites closest to the border. Her first year on the job, she found 146 rat infestations. Last year, she was down to 33. "That does not, of course, account for all the rats who ate the rat poison and died before anyone noticed them," she cautioned.

Beate Wastler typed Beate off to the infestation on his farm. At 40, though he lives in Beate's district, eradication is always a group effort. And so Don Doherty and two officers from Vermilion River County to the north—Orest Popoff, 35, and Glen Gorton, 35—came to help. About 500 m from the gravel road that serves as the Saskatchewan-Alberta border were three red grain bins. As Don Doherty circled them, his brown eye

right through it," said Don. "That's why we like to use our own eyes."

Checking the rats from the woodpile took morning. Afterwards, the officers checked a site they eradicated the previous year. They found no new signs of rodents and there were scutes and "rodent-scent" all around. Then they drove into Bodo, to the Olshen's Drive Restaurant for lunch. The Bodo area is mixed agricultural and oil country, with oil wells dotted among the farmers' fields. Dressed in their light-blue coveralls, the pest control officers were conspicuous among the farmers and oilmen at the diner. But then, they are used to standing out from a crowd. "The most thing about the job is that you're always the life of the party," remarked a gravel pit. "People are always asking you, 'Are you rat free?'"

For rat control, it is not romantic dates, at least, one evening. Full-time officers make \$35,000 to \$51,000; part-timers are paid a prorated salary. And 60 people applied for Gorton's part-time job when he quit last summer. Gorton, who also farms 600 acres, says his family has long been supportive of rat control. "My dad and that we've had only two rats on our farm," he said proudly. "He killed one with a pitchfork. The other," Gorton added with a grin, "he chased back to Saskatchewan."

After lunch, it was back to the Wastler farm and the rat traps. Where rats are full rats, do not actually enter them. They burrow underneath, then claw holes in the bottom of the bins. That way, grain filters down to them all winter long. Wastler figured he had lost a few bushels of grain. "That's not what they eat or what I'm afraid," he said. "It's the damage they do that's so bad—they chew up everything in sight." It would have to repair the bins, he said. And then he would have to prep them about six inches off the ground.

The actual eradication used insecticide technology. As Wastler watched, Don Doherty attached a black rubber hose to his own's exhaust pipe, then shoved the other end of the hose under one of the bins. The rodents would either suffocate, or come out to face a fuming trap. As the car exhaust started to blow itself, Beate Doherty, Popoff and Gorton leveled their guns again. One pink nose came out of a hole. Bang! "Good shot," said Gorton. Bang! Bang! "Good shot, Beate," shouted Popoff. And so it went, gassing and shooting, until the rats' control was complete. Wastler said that they had eradicated the latest threat to Alberta's oilfields. □

■ **Beate and Don Doherty: rat control is on work for the faint of heart**

caught the rodents' telltale signs: rat droppings, a worn path between the bins, a scum of plywood with rat tooth marks. Beate figured the rats put in there last fall. "If I'd have found them in the winter, we'd have killed them," she said. But the snow was too deep to check the bins then. And with the coming of spring, rat programs female rats ready to move on, there was no time to play around with slow-acting poison.

The group first attacked the screw wool piled beside the bins. Beate Doherty, Popoff and Gorton shook pillows, guns bailed, as Don Doherty shined a flashlight and two rats came scurrying out from underneath. Bang! Gums waddling by on the other side of a bushel were there passed to turn curious heads.

It was slow work—she heard at a three-and-a-half-hour session, with the rats hiding and running in all directions. The officers used shotguns with very fine pellets and 22s loaded with lead shot—"No noisier than that way," said Don Doherty. He recounted one hair-raising accident when a farmer, eager to help, got his own rifle from the house—loaded with solid-core bullets. "Orest and I were in the grainery when he shot

FILMS

Put on a happy face

Jim Carrey pushes physical comedy to the limit

THE MASK

Directed by Charles Haddon

Jim Carrey takes some getting used to. With his silly, puffy face and chattering voice, he takes physical comedy into the realm of vulgar caricature and gross exaggeration. His demeanor shifts from passivity to manic mayhem with a speed that makes Robin Williams look like Perry Como. Carrey is like a 1,000-watt stage light bulb—he is either on or off, with no in-between. The result can be off-putting, but his brilliance can dazzle. In the next few months, viewers will have plenty of opportunity to familiarize themselves with the 32-year-old Ontario's popular genius. Since the howl-of-success of *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective* earlier this year, Carrey has become a hot property. And now *The Mask*, a fantasy comedy that stretches Carrey's physical gifts to new limits, could well make him a household name.

But Carrey is hardly an overnight sensation. At age 15, he dropped out of school in his home town of Newmarket, Ont., and two years later began working the Toronto comedy club circuit. Then, he took his act to Los Angeles and in 1990 landed a job on the Fox-TV network's *In Living Color*. Carrey gained a cult following on the show with such performance pieces as *Fire Marshall Bill*, an accidental prison performance.

Bill, the much-detested comic *Ace Ventura*, featuring Carrey in his first starring role, caught everyone by surprise. Since its release last February, it has grossed more than \$72 million—and has vaulted Carrey into the Hollywood stratosphere. Next year, he will appear as the ballroom star in the third Caped Crusader movie, *Batman Forever*. And for *Dumb and Dumber*, an upcoming comedy co-starring Jeff Daniels, Carrey reportedly earned a whopping \$7 million.

By comparison, the \$450,000 he received for starring in *The Mask*—a project he took on before *Ace Ventura*'s release—seems like

small change. He may well have deserved more. *The Mask* is an exceedingly silly fantasy adventure, but it hits the mark with its irreverence and energy. Much of the latter comes from Carrey, who seems to have found a rare perfect fit for his schtick. Playing a stock clerk who dons a mask to find love and success, he is by turns eerily and frustratingly on the mark. It is also very funny.



Carrey: Hyperactive, cartoon-inspired coarseness for an obsessive rake is a neat suit

Granted, *The Mask* has plot holes big enough to drive a bloodsucker through. In an industrial-gothic megaplopa, Stanley Ickes (Carrey) mopes through life. Women describe him as "a nice guy"—but never date him. He is abused by his boss at the bank, where he ends without hope of advancement. His best friend is his Jack Russell terrier, Milo. But after a particularly rotten string of events, Stanley discovers an ancient wooden mask floating in a river. And his life is forever changed.

At that point, the movie accelerates into pure slapstick, capturing the hyperactive flavor of such crotch characters as Bugs Bunny and Duffy Duck. The mask transforms Stanley into a green-headed, obnoxious take-it-a-joke-seriously. When making a grab for

everything that Stanley has always wanted. First stop: the bank where Stanley works, to steal some easy cash. Then to the garage to wreck comic revenge on some surly mechanics. Then in a nightclub to dance the rumba and seduce the women of Stanley's dreams, Tina (Catherine Deneuve).

Although he eventually takes on the local crime syndicate, the Mask is no Superhero championing good. Instead, he is bent on fun. Combining Carrey's natural flexibility with computer-generated special effects, director Charles Russell gets his hero through cartoon-inspired contraptions that boggle the eye. One minute the Mask is dropping his jaw—literally—onto the table, the next, his face transforms into a wolf's as he ogles a beautiful woman. He even produces a menacing-looking gun that jogs out a "Bang!" fog.

Carrey seems to revel in the Mask's slip-

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JOE CHIALTY



Canada's cup of cold soup

BY ALLAN FOTHERINGHAM

In any world arena, Canada must be considered the coldest of nations—not cold, but French and difficult to stir.

—Stuart Kento

The analysts by the late and sooty Vancouver Sun publisher still appear. We are in the August of our years. As we move on a calm river to do better, we are once more waiting for Gookit, paddling while we sit in resignation for the result of the Quebec election.

No one can dispute the genius of the Quebec government calling an election in the middle of summer. Staying no one will notice. Flipping that people with five heads under water at the lake can't think? The calculation behind the strategy remains obscure. And difficult to stir.

The strategy is again sure, even more than usual. The Toronto Blue Jays' last-place team in baseball are something like our team. The Montreal Expos, who have no money at all, are leading their division on the way to the World Series.

In Ontario, everybody assumes Bob Rae and the NDP are losing. Maurice Strong, the chap handpicked by Rae to save Ontario Hydro when, after a mere 10 months on the job, to thank his CEO because he wasn't to be secretary general of the United Nations. Early to Bob: have you never read his memoir?

All the pollsters agree the Liberals will win the Ontario election although their leader, I think the name is Lynn McLeod though not sure, would not be recognized by three people if she walked the length of Yonge Street, the longest thoroughfare in the world. (You could look it up in Guinness.)

In British Columbia, David Johnston—the highest profile NDP MP in the land—is in summer camp at Chilliwack, a no-hare prison complex with TV and his machine. Audrey McLaughlin has completely disappeared, possibly in yet another canoe on the Assiniboine.

Who would want her job? World Shepherd Lewis told Bob White? Which party does Nelson Rex belong to this week? Sweden will



probably go for the leader's post. Tommy Douglas whistles furiously in his grave.

Meanwhile, forest fires are devastating Princeton in the Thousand Valley, which probably will add an enormous strategic move to the war. Eric Lindsay has proved once more that, all the way, he's a jerk. The United States wants Alan Eagleson, but he's not crazy about the idea.

In Ottawa Jean Chrétien, who happens to come from Quebec and who happens to be the Prime Minister of Canada, mentions that he's going to say a word about the Quebec election. This is like a skier, a snow machine descending on him, who decides not to go.

In Alberta, Ralph Klein moves from threats to Quebec and then goes fishing. Jacques Parizeau goes in for it. In Newfoundland, all the old have disappeared, which as someone has pointed out is like imagining Saskatchewan without wheat. The Ameri-

can donors to put a 50-cent tariff on Saskatchewan wheat exports, which may make it all true.

In Manitoba, the only excitement in the world and boarding championship, but the man only one knicker who's ever been on one of the craft. I guess you'd have to be there.

In Toronto, they're holding the world basketball championships, which means all the hotels in town have had to order in extra-long beds. European apartments will write once again that 85 per cent of the American Dream: even if it's black while only 12 per cent of the American population is black.

No one can figure out why we're building a bridge to Prince Edward Island since the only people it will aid are Quebec women going to buy dolls that look like Anne of Green Gables. First Pope John, probably, will go into it in 1993 season.

In Richmond, the major crisis seems to be whether Prince Manning, who came to Ottawa to change the world, should sit in the front of the Commemorative or stick in the second row where, to supposedly demonstrate democracy, he has been slumped a leader who doesn't lead. What happened to the cheap showman? On each major issue does a nation founder.

No one pays any attention to the Alberta promoters, as usual. Even Claude Wells has been struck quiet. What is the name of the premier of Nova Scotia? Quick now? Gotcha.

Waiting for Gookit. Waiting for his Jewishness. Daniel Johnston has been described by friends as having the personality of a two-bit actor. Jacques Parizeau, once again as a self-indulgent Oxford don, just comes from a rather good lunch.

Canada comes across, in the August of its years, as an underpopulated collection of regions. The leading force is no longer an ideal listed at Toronto. On the way and arriving at Toronto.

It is now about the audience surrounding Quebec, that we have come to this. That we are still Lord Dufferin's two nations waiting at the bottom of a single state. Charles Guité is dead, and the country may be also.

Back up. The Argus has attacked Ralph Klein may catch no fish in his vacuum, which could add wisdom to his soul. Jean Chrétien may recover from his layabouts and his amnesia. Mike Hancock may keep his yip about Quebec, and Ray Manzoni also.

After the baseball strike the Expos will win the World Series. Jacques Parizeau will be invited to the White House and Hillary will have a success conversation with him in the Rose Garden. Thank on the bright side of life.

There is no law that says you

can't make love at 4 in the afternoon on a Tuesday

shall not study a sunset or iris butterflies must pay tax on itemized moments of pleasure

may not have extra mushrooms with your steak can't dieselback in Tortola and stay there

must pack wary along with your luggage can't learn about life from a turtle

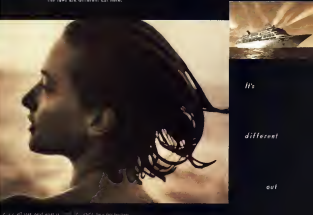
must contribute to the GNP every single solitary day of your life

absolutely must not your chronological age not your shoe size shall maintain strict economies of emotion

can't make love again at 5 in the afternoon on the Tuesday we spoke of earlier

because the laws of the land do not apply

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